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Minister

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L.L.D., Deputy Minister

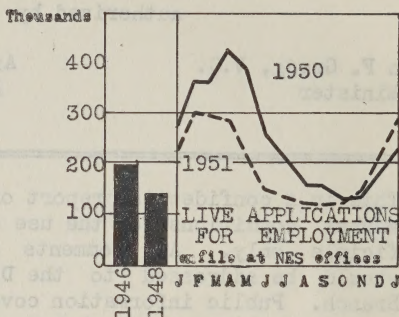
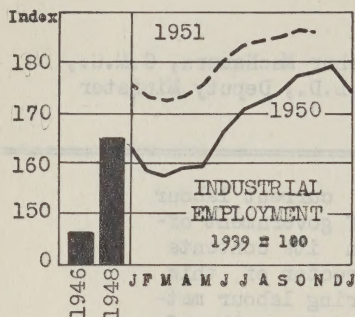
This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

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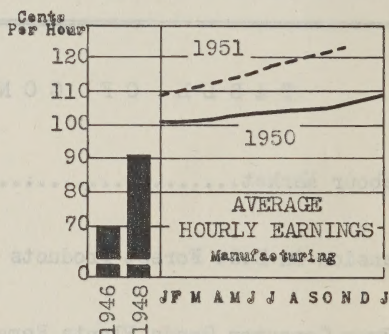
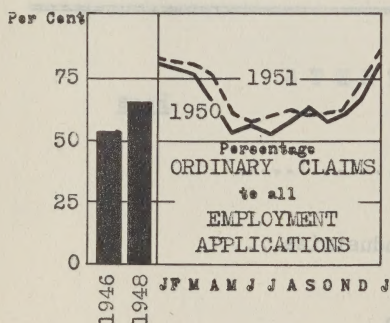
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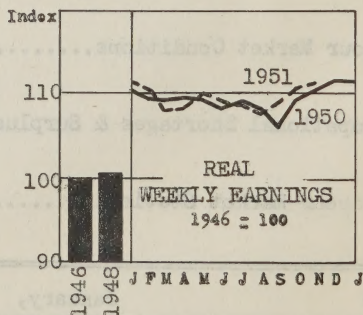
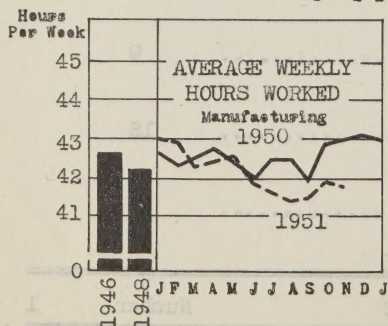
LABOUR



MARKET



TRENDS



CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

Unusually heavy labour surpluses existed in many parts of Canada, notably in Ontario and Quebec, by the end of January. By this time, unemployment was near its seasonal peak. At January 31, 1952, the number of workers looking for jobs through the National Employment Service had risen to 362,000, about 10 per cent of all wage and salary workers. The weekly increase in these figures, however, dropped sharply in the last two weeks of January as compared with the earlier part of the month. A detailed summary of the local labour market picture as at mid-January, 1952, is given at the bottom of this page.

Employment levels in many consumer goods industries continued low in the face of reduced sales volume. At December 1, 1951, the latest date for which monthly employment data are available, employment was sharply below levels of one year ago in the rubber products, leather products, woollen goods, artificial silk, clothing, sawmills, furniture, heating and cooking apparatus, motor vehicle, and glass products industries. In many of these industries, a large portion of the current working force continued to lose two and three days' work each week.

Any sustained rise in the current employment levels of these industries will depend on a rise in consumer buying. A few weeks ago, there were indications that consumers might be starting to increase their purchases to a significant extent. These indications now appear to have subsided at least for the moment. Throughout January, 1952, department store sales were considerably less in value than a year ago, after gains over the year of 1 and 4 per cent had been recorded in December and November, 1951 respectively.

On the other hand, evidence continues to mount that the basic determinants of consumer demand--income levels and savings--are becoming increasingly favourable for an upsurge in consumer buying and thus of employment levels. Labour income has been running about 20 per cent above last year's levels. Even allowing for the 12 per cent rise in consumer prices over the year, this means a sizeable gain in the potential demand

<u>Labour Market Groups (1)</u>	<u>Number of Areas</u>		
	<u>Jan. 15</u>	<u>Jan. 1</u>	<u>Dec. 1</u>
1. Substantial labour surplus.....	26	16	1
2. Moderate labour surplus.....	40	26	13
3. Slight labour surplus.....	84	87	75
4. Balanced labour market.....	28	49	87
5. Marked labour shortages.....	-	-	2

(1) For definition of groupings, see key to maps, pages 10 & 11.

for goods and services. Savings increased sharply in 1951, largely taking the form of a significant reduction in consumer indebtedness particularly in the last quarter of the year. Rising expenditures by the federal government both on defence and in the form of more extensive old age pensions will also mean significant additions to incomes of individuals.

If consumer buying picks up markedly, production levels in industries producing durable goods may quickly reach the point where further rises will be hindered by material shortages. Allocations of steel and key base metals for civilian production are to be reduced considerably in the United States by the second quarter of 1952. This may not be without its significance for Canadian supplies which come from the United States.

Thus, on both counts--slack consumer demand or material shortages--production and employment in consumer durable goods industries is not likely to increase during 1952 much higher than late 1951 levels. Due principally to the scarcity of mortgage funds, housebuilding also is not likely to pick up very much in 1952. This means that there is little probability of a sharp increase in employment in the furniture and some building materials industries.

As far as employment levels are concerned, the major offsetting factor to these developments will be rising levels of activity in the major defence industries. Since the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, employment in the industries most closely associated with the defence production program (1) has risen by about 65,000. Further substantial gains are anticipated in most of these industries during 1952. The extent to which these increases offset the effects on the labour market of the employment declines in many industries producing civilian goods will depend on the rapidity with which the defence production program moves ahead and the geographical and occupational mobility of the workers involved.

Wages paid to industrial workers have increased considerably during 1951. Wage rate increases of 10 cents an hour or more occurred in over two thirds of 1,601 collective agreements received in the Department of Labour during 1951 and examined as part of a continuing study of clauses in agreements. The study, which will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Labour Gazette, shows that, in addition to the increases in wage rates, 342 of the agreements covering almost 130,000 workers also provided for automatic wage increases to compensate for rises in the cost of living.

(1) These include Metal Mining (other than gold), Boilers and Plate Work, Fabricated & Structural Steel, Hardware & Tools, Iron Castings, Internal Combustion Engines, Machine Tools, Primary Iron & Steel, Aircraft & Parts, Shipbuilding & Repairing, Non-Ferrous Smelting & Refining, Aluminum Products, Brass & Copper Products, Electrical Apparatus & Supplies, Explosives & Ammunition, and Optical Equipment.

MAJOR EXPANSION IN B.C. FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES

The British Columbia pulp and paper industry is in the midst of a major expansion program. Reported employment in the industry at November 1 amounted to 5,400 workers, a 26 per cent increase over the same date in 1950. It is estimated that new plants either recently completed, under construction, or in the planning stages, will result in a further employment increase of more than 35 per cent, or a gain of about 2,000 production workers.

This expansion program also will result in many new jobs for woods workers. An estimated ratio of about three loggers for every production worker means that about 6,000 new jobs will be created in the woods due to expansion in the pulp and paper industry.

During 1951, two very large plants commenced production; the Columbia Cellulose Co. at Prince Rupert B.C. with 350 production workers, and the Howe Sound Pulp Co. plant at Port Mellon with 190 additional workers.

There are three large industrial expansion projects under construction at the present time. The first unit of the \$40 million newsprint mill being erected at Duncan Bay by the Elk Falls Co. Ltd. is nearing completion. Plans are already being prepared for another unit to cost \$20 million. Employment in the first unit will reach about 500 workers when the project is completed later in 1952.

Construction work is under way on the MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd. pulp mill at Nanaimo, where an \$18 million extension is being built to the new plant which was completed in 1950 at a cost of \$12 million. This extension will double capacity and will require an additional 150 workers in 1953.

The Columbia Cellulose Co. Ltd. already is expanding their large new plant at Prince Rupert, which was just completed in the late spring of 1951. This expansion will require 30 men in the mill and approximately 100 in the woods in 1952.

All the foregoing expansion projects are eclipsed by the Celgar Development Co. \$65 million program near Castlegar. This company is a subsidiary of the Celanese Corporation of America. The project initially embraces a new kraft mill and a ground wood mill, which together will employ 1,000 men about two years from now. If feasible a plywood and board mill may be erected at later stages. With the 1,200 loggers required in conjunction with the paper mills the population of Castlegar may just about double.

The Western Plywood Co., which just recently completed a \$1 million plywood mill at Quesnel, now plans the construction of a \$19 million pulp mill in the same area. The B.C. Power Commission will invest \$16 million to supply 150,000 horsepower for the new mill. This company will soon employ 100 production workers in the new plywood plant, and more than 200 workers in the pulp mill when it is completed.

A \$2 million expansion of the Westminster Paper Co. Ltd. plant at New Westminster will be completed by the end of 1952. An additional 150 new jobs will be created by this project.

As has been characteristic of this industry across Canada, many modernization programs have been, and are being, carried out by B.C. mills. The largest of these is the \$30 million Powell River Co. program at Ocean Falls, and a \$6 million investment by the Alaska Pine & Cellulose Co. at New Westminster, British Columbia.

ESTIMATED INCREASE IN MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT
AS A RESULT OF PLANT EXPANSION (1)

- First Quarter, 1952 -

Area	Name of Company	Industry	Number of New Employees
<u>Quebec</u>			
Lachine	Dominion Engineering Works Ltd.	Iron & Steel Products	35
St. Jerome	Tower Co. Ltd.	Clothing	125
Waterville	Cdn. Sponge Rubber Prod.	Rubber Products	150
<u>Ontario</u>			
Renfrew	Cockshutt Aircraft	Transportation Equip.	400
St. Thomas	Clevite Ltd.	Transportation Equip.	120
	Weatherhead Co. of Canada, Ltd.	Transportation Equip.	250
Sarnia	Dow Chemical of Canada	Chemical Products	16
<u>Prairies</u>			
Brandon	Anglo-Cdn. Oils Ltd.	Petroleum Products	10
Lethbridge	Major Aluminum Prod.	Non-ferrous Metal Products	12
<u>Pacific</u>			
Esquimalt	Sooke Lake Lumber Ltd.	Wood Products	50
Port Alberni	MacMillan & Bloedel	Wood Products	100
Vancouver	MacMillan & Bloedel	Wood Products	225

- (1) All employment information contained in the table has been confirmed by direct contact with the firms concerned.

LAY-OFFS FROM CONSUMER GOODS PLANTS REMAIN HEAVY THROUGH DECEMBER

Non-seasonal lay-offs in manufacturing industries kept up during December, the latter part of which was highlighted by extended holiday shutdowns and closures for inventory taking. In British Columbia, logging and sawmill operations were hampered by poor weather conditions which caused some closures. A large number of textile mills in Ontario and Quebec continued on short time.

The number of workers reported on short time claim at the end of November was 40,685, an increase of 28,855 compared to the same time in 1950. Many of these workers are employed in the textile industry in Ontario and Quebec.

By cause, the distribution of reported December lay-offs was as follows: lack of orders 73%; lack of materials 5%; and other reasons 22%.

There has been a marked drop in the demand for textiles and clothing. The trend of lay-offs and short-time in these industries has been steadily up since last March, and at this point these separations are definitely contra-seasonal. The whole problem hinges on a shortage of orders which can be traced to depressed consumer markets. Most mills shut down for an extended period at the year-end, usually from about December 22 to January 7, and several large firms stated that short-time would commence after January 7. Woollen and cotton goods firms and clothing firms are very slack, with reported employment in clothing dropping from 104,389 at April 1, to 92,885 at November 1, 1951. Reported employment in primary textiles dropped from 78,480 at April 1 to 71,932. On a percentage basis, these represent decreases of 11 per cent in clothing and 8 per cent in primary textiles.

As is the case of many other centres in Quebec and Ontario, especially, dependent on textiles for employment, the small mills in the Ottawa Valley are very slack, with three mills closing down completely.

Large-scale lay-offs from household furniture, furnishings and equipment plants, which started in July, continued during December. The Canadian General Electric Co. released 52 workers at Quebec and 60 at Toronto. Gelling Industries Ltd. at Welland separated 115 workers for about three weeks, while Kelvinator of Canada Ltd. released 270 workers also for about 3 weeks. In the iron and steel group, General Steel Wares Ltd. laid off 400 at Toronto and 720 at London, both lay-offs for about two weeks. All the above lay-offs were due to lack of orders.

A shortage of steel caused Page Hersey Tubes Ltd. at Welland to release approximately 170 men for an indefinite period.

There were about 1,500 further lay-offs from the automotive industry during December, with 950 of these resulting from the Ford strike at Windsor. However, one firm re-hired 800 workers who were laid-off in November. Because of the Ford of Windsor strike, Chatco Steel Products Ltd. at Tilbury, separated 50 workers; Holmes Foundry Co. at Sarnia, 400; the Essex Wire Corporation at Windsor, 100; and Godfredson Ltd., also at Windsor released 400 workers. All these lay-offs were of comparatively short duration. Repercussions from the strike affected a firm at Bathurst, New Brunswick, where the George Eddy Co. Ltd. and affiliated La Perrelle Lumber Co. Ltd. released about 150 men because of the suspension of large orders from Ford of Canada. General Motors of Canada Ltd. recalled all but approximately 500 of the 5,000 men laid off in November because of retooling for model changeover.

Good news in the automotive industry was supplied by McKinnon Industries Ltd. at St. Catharines where the injunction which closed down the foundry early in November was finally lifted and 800 men went back to work on December 26.

In British Columbia, logging operations and sawmills were considerably hampered by severe snowfalls early in December, and the Christmas shutdown for most firms was extended to January 7. Numerous small mills are shut down due to difficulties of supply and market conditions. Various operations in the interior were rapidly closing down until spring, as in other years.

Employment conditions in the Prairie and Maritime regions were quite good, and non-seasonal lay-offs in these two regions have been very light.

Reported Non-Seasonal Lay-offs in Manufacturing by Industry
October, 1951 (1)

	Reported Lay-offs (1) During December, 1951		Employment at November 1, 1951 (2)	
	Number of Plants	Number of Workers	Number	Change from last year
Iron and steel products.	6	1,600	177,900	+ 7.3
Transportation equipment	1	250	132,800	+18.5
Automobiles.....	5	1,450	49,600	- 7.5
Clothing.....	9	500	92,900	- 6.3
Wood products.....	9	350	86,400	- 3.7
Textile products.....	7	600	71,950	- 4.7
Electrical apparatus....	10	900	63,650	+ 2.1
Chemical products.....	1	30	50,950	+ 8.1
Leather products.....	4	200	26,450	-10.9
Tobacco products.....	1	20	9,000	- 6.9
Other (3).....	-	-	384,000	+ 2.3
Total.....	53	5,900	1,096,000	+ 2.8

(1) As reported by National Employment Service offices.

(2) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.

(3) Employment in the eight industries in which no non-seasonal lay-offs were reported in December, 1951.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

JANUARY 1, 1952

Area Groupings ¹	Number of Areas					
	CANADA	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	PRAIRIES	PACIFIC
1. Substantial Labour Surplus	16	-	8	3	-	5
2. Moderate Labour Surplus	26	4	9	7	-	6
3. Slight Labour Surplus	87	18	17	34	13	5
4. Balanced Labour Market	49	5	9	17	16	2
5. Marked Labour Shortages	-	-	-	-	-	-

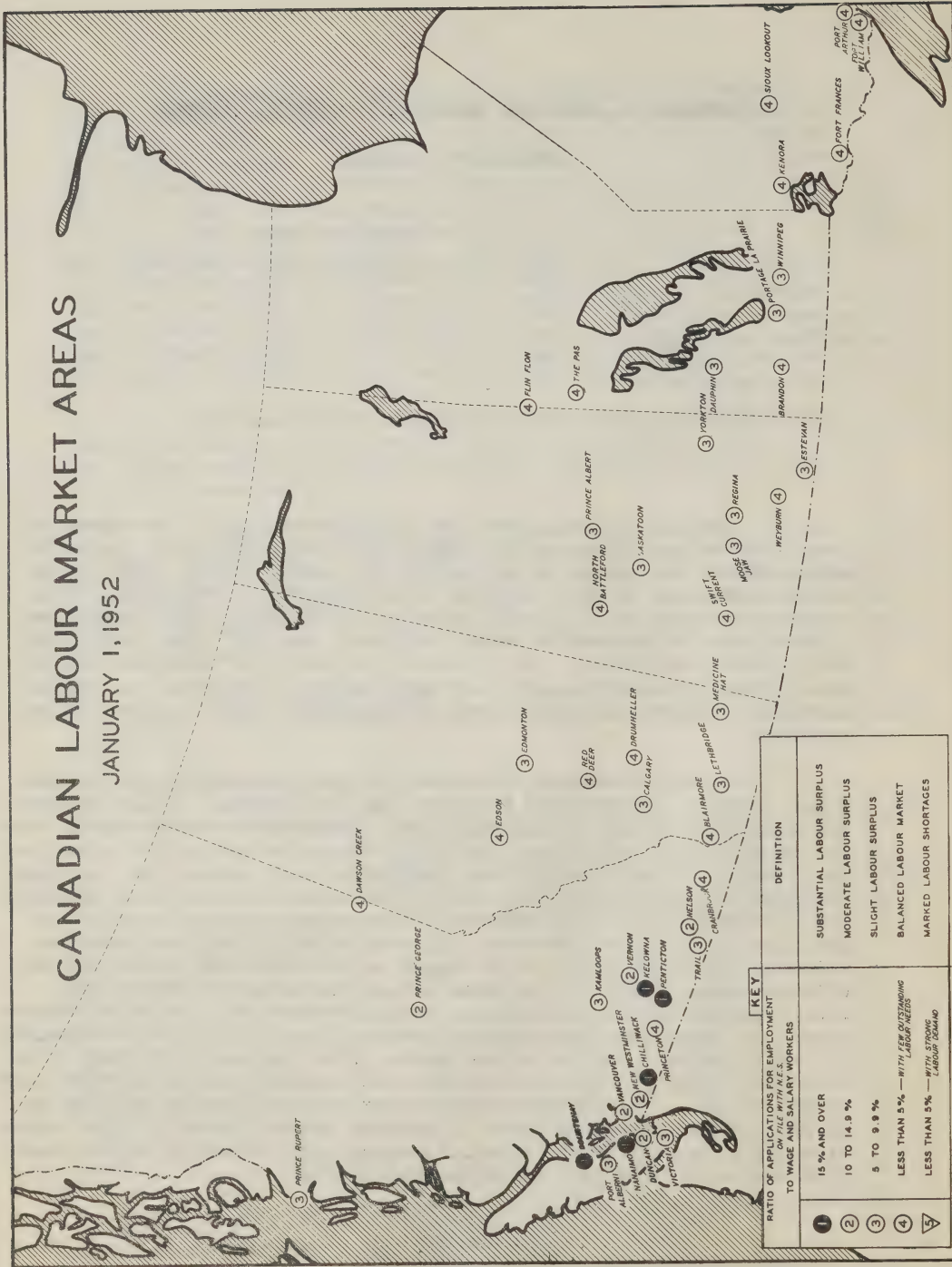
¹For definition of groupings, see key to map chart on following pages.

During December, there was a pronounced rise in the number of local manpower surpluses as the operation of seasonal forces increased substantially the number of job seekers in Canada. At the end of the month, there were 40 more "surplus" areas than at the beginning. This increase was made up of 15 more areas with substantial labour surpluses, 13 more areas with moderate labour surpluses and 12 more areas with slight labour surpluses. As a result, the number of balanced local labour markets declined sharply, and there were no localities in which shortages of particular skills were sufficiently acute to offset rising surpluses.

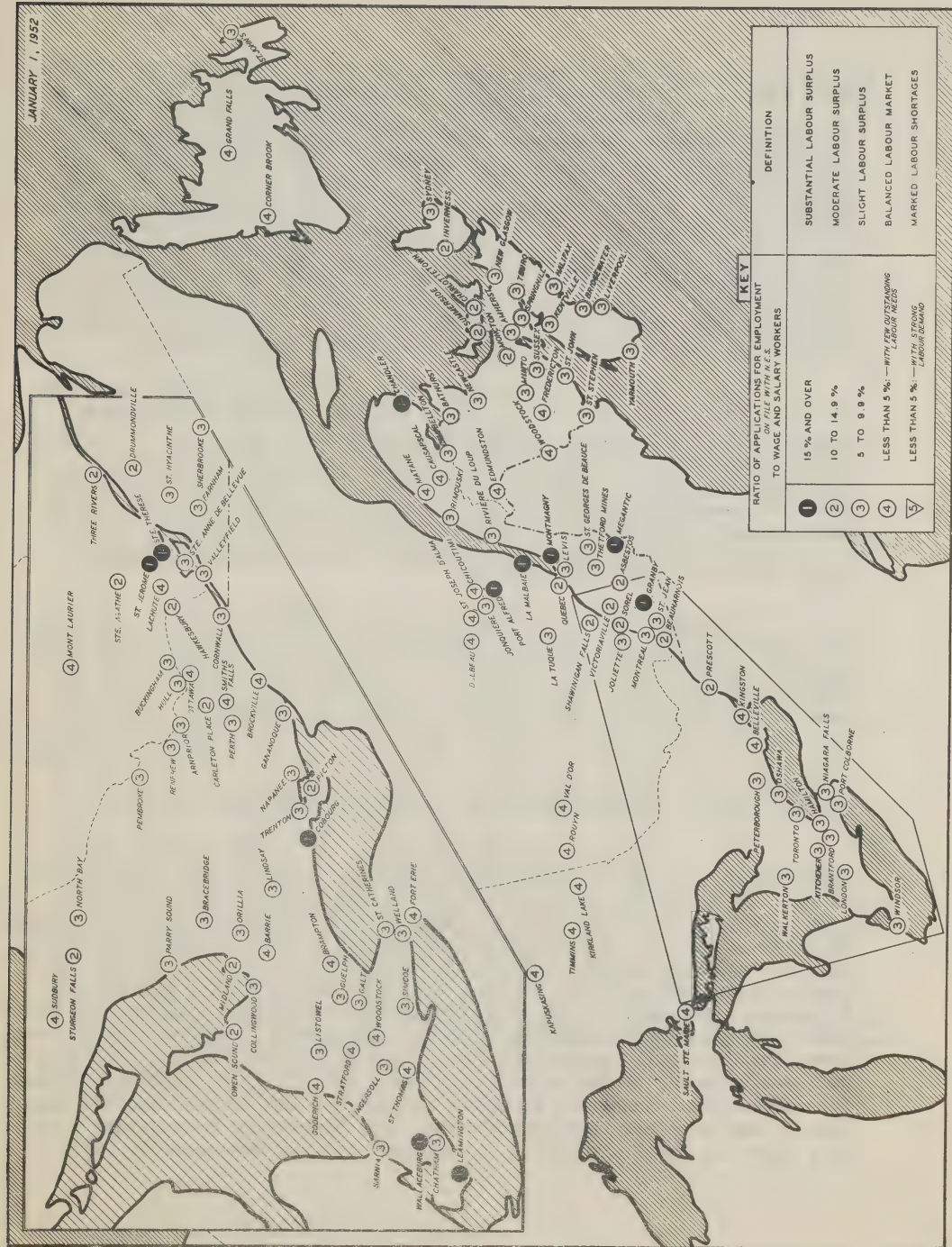
Although seasonal forces were largely responsible for the December increase in available manpower, the non-seasonal phenomena that had occasioned earlier rising surpluses, especially in manufacturing districts of Ontario and Quebec, continued to operate during the period, and the prospect of increased defence production holds promise of improved employment conditions for only some of the areas and industries that have been adversely affected by contracting consumer markets. Lay-offs of definite or indefinite duration (including extended Christmas vacation shutdowns) and reductions in the length of the work week contributed additional large numbers to the total of unemployed and under-employed. Short-time claims for unemployment insurance benefits, filed by workers whose work weeks have been reduced, reached a total of 40,700 at December 31, 1951, rising 7,500 during the month. This rise was comprised of an increase of 7,900 in Ontario and Quebec and a small decline in other parts of the country. The current total exceeds that of December 31, 1950 by 28,900. The accompanying charts illustrate another aspect of this short-time situation—the extent to which average hours worked by wage-earners were reduced between 1950 and 1951. (See page 14).

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

JANUARY 1, 1952



KEY		DEFINITION
1	15% AND OVER	SUBSTANTIAL LABOUR SURPLUS
2	10 TO 14.9%	MODERATE LABOUR SURPLUS
3	5 TO 9.9%	SLIGHT LABOUR SURPLUS
4	LESS THAN 5% — WITH FEW OUTSTANDING LABOUR AREAS	BALANCED LABOUR MARKET
5	LESS THAN 5% — WITH MANY OUTSTANDING LABOUR AREAS	MARKED LABOUR SHORTAGES



ATLANTIC

In the Atlantic region, reduced activity in some manufacturing lines and the traditional seasonal slackening in agriculture, residential construction and food processing was reflected in an increase of some 6,500 persons registering at the National Employment Service during December. The level of employment throughout the year, however, was higher than during the previous twelve months and the current employment pattern of the non-seasonal industries points towards an equally favourable outlook for 1952. Of the several contributing factors responsible for keeping unemployment from reaching serious proportions, strong activity in the primary iron and steel industry, the impact of the defense preparedness program on shipbuilding and defense construction, sustained production of railway rolling stock and heavy woods employment have had the most stabilizing effects.

While generally favourable employment opportunities prevailed in these industries, the rising number of job seekers, stimulated by winter weather conditions, gained momentum during the month, moving four local areas from the slight to the moderate labour surplus category. In Prince Edward Island, closure of the north shore port and seasonal release of construction workers were chiefly responsible for the rise in unemployment. Lay-offs in heating equipment lines in Moncton and closing of the provincial government operated mine at Inverness brought these areas into the same category.

Although most areas in the region showed some decline in employment over the previous month, a highlight of the Halifax and Saint John areas was a reduction in the number of job applications filed with the N.E.S. over the month, and a considerable improvement compared to the same period last year. Winter port activity was primarily responsible for improved conditions as work in water and rail transportation gained tempo steadily through the month. Easing of material shortages has aided shipbuilding in Halifax but there is some concern over the shortage of certain skills, such as machinists, welders, fitters and pipefitters.

QUEBEC

December, 1951 saw the number of active job applications in National Employment Service files in the Quebec region reach a total of 79,600 as compared to 71,100 for the same period of 1950. Of this increase of 8,500, female applicants accounted for 6,500 and male applicants for 2,000. Unfilled vacancies notified by employers stood at 13,900 for December 31, 1951 as against 14,700 for the year-earlier date, showing a drop of about 500 for men and 300 for women. The data on job applications do not include employees on short-time work who might be seeking full-time employment. At the present time, these could be quite numerous. The extent of reduced working time in Quebec manufacturing is indicated by increase of 16,300 in short-time claims for unemployment insurance benefits between the end of 1951 and the same time a year earlier. During December, 1951 short-time claims rose 2,200 to a year-end total of 19,900, as against 3,600 at December 31, 1950.

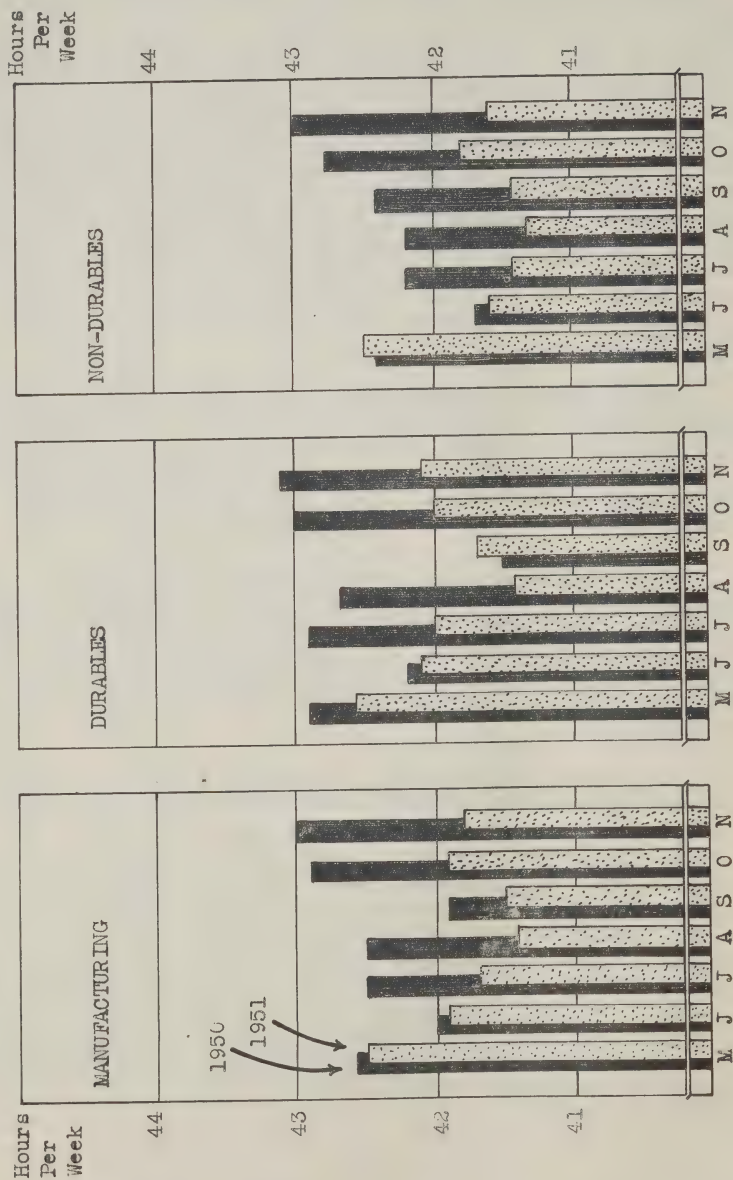
Seasonal factors, such as the usual slump in construction, the closing of the navigation season, contributed substantially to the rising unemployment level in Quebec during December. Credit restrictions, scarcity of certain raw materials, stronger foreign competition in textile goods and electrical appliances also were responsible for a large part of the growing number of job seekers. This latter group of factors has been the chief cause of larger-than-usual reductions of employment among factory workers which were under way throughout the region during the month. Concurrently, heavy snow falls caused the closing of most quarries for the winter, and of so much outdoor work on major resource development projects that the construction industry was experiencing a heavier seasonal slump than usual. The logging industry, on the other hand, continued in the market for workers although the cut was ahead of schedule. In most mining, experienced workers were particularly scarce, but immigrants helped to fill the gaps.

Female textile workers form a substantial proportion of all women registered with N.E.S. offices in the region. While registrations soared to over 10,000, orders for experienced female factory workers remained static at around 450 for the second consecutive month. Of total job applications filed by women, 6,000 were by experienced needle trades operators and 1,500 were by experienced primary textile workers.

In the Montreal area, where some 400 firms were on short time, textile and clothing were chiefly responsible for depressed employment levels. While some footwear producers had begun rehiring, tobacco workers still were being released. The expectation of new orders following the annual furniture exhibition, a regular occurrence at this time of year, was encouraging relatively inactive furniture manufacturers throughout the region.

At Montmagny, Drummondville, Granby, Quebec and a number of other centres, the textile industry still was mainly responsible for much of the local unemployment. The completion of a new rolling mill in Three Rivers gives prospect of additional employment in the manufacture of non-ferrous metal products, currently one of the most active industries in the region. Megantic's textile and woodworking industries and quarries contributed heavily to total unemployment in that area; while in Sorel, shipbuilding activity was slowing down as outdoor work was curtailed by the weather, but skilled metalworkers and machine shop workers were in strong demand. At Port Alfred, the close of navigation on the Saguenay brought higher levels of unemployment. Chandler, Gaspe and New Richmond also were areas of relatively high unemployment at the beginning of January because of the closing down of fishing, fish processing plants and construction projects.

Average Hours Worked By Wage Earners in Canadian Manufacturing Industries



ONTARIO The upward trend in unemployment during December in the Ontario region was reflected in growing local manpower surpluses. At the beginning of January, there were substantial surpluses in three localities (none a month earlier), moderate surpluses in seven (five at December 1), and slight surpluses in 34 (27). Labour demand and supply were in approximate balance in 17 localities, as against 28 at December 1; while shortages of particular skills were neither acute enough nor general enough to justify classifying any localities as "shortage" areas. There was one local area in this category a month before.

Purely seasonal unemployment accounts for only a part of the 84,900 persons seeking work through N.E.S. offices in the region at the end of December. Just as significant is the continued depression of markets for products of the textile, clothing, automobile, leather, rubber, footwear, furniture and electrical apparatus industries. During December there were further reductions in staff and in working hours by employers in these industries, as inventories remained at high levels in relation to current sales and short-run market prospects were persistently discouraging. As a result, markedly less favourable local employment situations developed in a total of 33 of the 61 labour market areas of the region.

In only five localities were registrations with the N.E.S. fewer at the end of the month than at the beginning. Three of these five local areas were Kapuskasing, Kirkland Lake and Timmins, where mining activity, pulp mill activity and the return to the woods of loggers after the Christmas vacation to finish cuts and begin hauling, resulted in slightly reduced numbers of active job applications. In Renfrew, clearance orders for bush workers and local demand for construction workers brought a slight reduction in the number of job seekers despite temporary lay-offs from textile and electrical manufacturing. The recall to work of most of the auto workers laid off at the end of November in Oshawa cut total registrations with the National Employment Office there by almost 60 per cent.

During December, small staff cuts were fairly general in manufacturing in the Cobourg local area, but the substantial labour surplus there is comprised chiefly of construction skills and labour. The end of cannery activity for the season, together with the return home of workers laid off from construction and factory jobs in other localities account for the substantial surplus at the end of December in the Leamington area. Seasonal closure of a sugar refinery, lay-offs in glass manufacturing, extended holiday shut-downs among metalworking firms and staff reductions in auto assembly and supplier plants in adjacent areas all have contributed to the substantial manpower surplus in Wallaceburg, where work on defence contracts has been delayed by material shortages.

In Toronto, active job applications at the end of December were more than double the total a year earlier. The responsibility for this rests with the very general slackness in most consumer goods manufacturing, and with the influx into the area of workers from outside points

who feel that winter jobs, particularly in factories, are more likely to be available there than in smaller centres. Similar factors have given rise to considerably higher levels of unemployment in Hamilton, London, Brantford, Kitchener, Galt, Guelph, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Sarnia and Welland. The industries most prominently affected are textiles, clothing, footwear, furniture, electrical appliances.

The prevalence of short-time work in these same industries is indicated by the very sharp rise in the number of workers claiming short-time unemployment insurance benefits. During December, the Ontario regional total increased from 12,800 to 18,600 while the Canada total rose from 33,200 to 40,700. The current Ontario total of short-time claimants is 14,400 higher than the total at the end of 1950.

PRAIRIE In the Prairie region, the large proportion of local areas that are in the "balanced" labour market category reflects the operation of several factors that have contributed to a relatively active winter season. The continued strength of demand for pulpwood products, together with favourable weather conditions, have resulted in a high level of production in the Lakehead district, with over 4,000 seasonal workers absorbed into this work in the past four months. In Alberta, industrial expansion and the extension of exploration for oil and natural gas has been responsible for a steady increase in non-agricultural employment. The third source of additional demand for labour is the large volume of defence construction, much of which is continuing through the winter.

On the supply side of the labour market picture, the large volume of immigration this fall has enlarged the total number of persons available for work. On the other hand, the record value of farm products has enabled more farm workers than usual to retire from the labour force for the winter.

As a result of these factors unemployment in the region as a whole was lower than last year, in contrast to the situation in other regions. Of the thirty local labour market areas in the Prairie region, Winnipeg was the only one in which the labour surplus approached the "moderate" category, and was one of the few places where job applications were greater than last year. A 25 per cent drop in construction, together with a slackening in retail trade and clothing manufacture were the chief causes of the labour surplus in this area.

PACIFIC At the present time there are two main influences bearing on the level of employment in the Pacific region.

The first stems from the re-armament of the western nations. The direct result has been an increase of 80 per cent in ship-building employment in the past year and a steady advance in the iron and steel industries. At the same time, the world scarcity of critical materials has accelerated the development of new forest, mining and power resources and the expansion of existing capacity. Many of these projects will reach the production stage this year; the larger ones are not expected to be completed before 1954.

While the basic employment trend is upward, the current situation has been adversely affected by both the long forest closure last summer and the heavy fall of snow at the end of the year. Lost production and income during the summer months have been reflected in a year to year drop in sawmill employment despite the strong export demand for lumber, and lower levels of employment in retail trade. The recent heavy snowfall has resulted in a sharp rise in job applications at N.E.S. offices. Latest reports show a total of 50,800 at January 10, which is 14 per cent of the estimated number of wage and salary workers.

Weather conditions largely account for the extensive shifts of areas between groupings in the period under review. A virtual shutdown of logging in Courtenay, Duncan and Nanaimo caused these areas to move into the moderate and substantial surplus categories. On the mainland the same conditions, together with the usual shutdown of canneries and the return of workers from out of town construction projects, created substantial surpluses in Kelowna, Penticton and Chilliwack. The movement of idle workers into Vancouver brought this city into the slight surplus category. The general opinion is that the weather will not permit any large scale resumption of activity until the end of February.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

JANUARY 1, 1952

Manpower surpluses are the predominant feature of employment conditions in local labour market areas at January 1, 1952. Surpluses of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers appeared in a much greater number of localities than at earlier dates, and more occupational groups were affected. Manpower shortages, on the other hand, eased off considerably; they were much less numerous and less acute. Changes in the overall shortage-surplus picture over recent months are summarized in the following tabulation:

	<u>Jan.1/52</u>	<u>Dec.1/51</u>	<u>Nov.1/51</u>	<u>Oct.1/51</u>
Number of areas with occupational shortages	39	48	62	73
Number of occupations with local shortages	10	19	17	23
Number of areas with occupational surpluses	153	112	52	44
Number of occupations with local surpluses	36	29	25	25

The freeze-up brought to an end coastal navigation in Newfoundland and inland navigation in Quebec and Ontario, giving rise to more extensive and pronounced surpluses of seamen. Skilled and unskilled food and tobacco workers became surplus in 22 scattered areas across Canada, as against 12 at December 1, as fish processing plants, canning and preserving establishments closed with their season. Surpluses of experienced loggers and bushmen increased in size and number, especially in the Pacific region where, however, they were more heavily concentrated in Vancouver and New Westminster than at the beginning of the month. Shortages of skilled woods workers, on the other hand, generally were less acute, and appeared in slightly fewer areas.

Largely as a result of interruptions in logging activity and log deliveries by heavy snow, sawmill and planing mill activity in local areas in the Pacific region have been extensively curtailed. As usual, many sawmills in the Maritimes have closed for the winter. These circumstances occasioned an increase of nine in the number of localities in which experienced mill workers were surplus, to a total of 13 areas, and increased the size of the surplus in many areas. Unskilled lumber and lumber products workers at January 1 were surplus in 42 local areas, as against 19 a month earlier. Interrupted logging operations and milling activity accounted for most of this growth.

The most pronounced impact of seasonal forces appeared in the construction occupations. Carpenters were surplus in two-thirds (125) of all local labour market areas at the beginning of January, as compared

to only about one-third (67) at December 1. The rise in the number of areas with surpluses of carpenters was evenly distributed across all five regions, and was caused chiefly by the winter shut-down of work on resource development and defence construction projects. Slackness in residential building reduced the amount of indoor work available this winter. The same factors caused an increase of nine, to a total of 21, in the number of areas in which painters were available in relatively large numbers. As in the case of carpenters, unskilled construction workers were released in large numbers during December from road construction and maintenance as well as from building projects. There were surpluses of construction labour in 101 localities at January 1, as against 62 at December 1.

Non-seasonal factors were the chief causes of extensive short-time work and increasing local surpluses among primary and secondary textile workers, skilled and unskilled. With the sole exception of Winnipeg, where numerous secondary textile workers were out of work, all other surpluses of textile workers appeared in areas of Ontario and Quebec, and especially the latter region. Surpluses of skilled primary and secondary textile workers occurred in 20 localities as against 15 at December 1, while unskilled textile workers were surplus in 13 areas, four more than at the earlier date. The same causes--chiefly lack of orders due to weak consumer markets--underlay the increase in size and extent of surpluses of cabinetmakers and woodworkers. The furniture industry, particularly in Ontario localities, continued to operate at much reduced levels. Surpluses of boot and shoe workers became heavier during December in larger centres of Quebec, but there were fewer of these workers seeking employment in Toronto at the end of the month than at the beginning. Barring a marked revival of consumer demand for the products of these industries, of which there is little immediate prospect, it seems unlikely that there will be any pronounced improvement in employment conditions in the textile, leather and furniture industries for some months to come.

Although there were greater numbers of metalworking skills available for employment by the beginning of January, shortages of machinists, toolmakers, die setters, machine shop workers and sheet metal workers persisted in only slightly fewer localities than at December 1. Demand for all of these but sheet metal workers continued to be heaviest in Sorel. On the other hand, surpluses of foundry workers, structural iron and steel workers, welders and flame cutters increased in size and in number, and were concentrated largely in manufacturing centres of south-western Ontario. A rising tempo of defence production activity may improve employment conditions for these classes of workers through the coming months. There were no notable shortages of unskilled metalworkers at January 1, but surpluses arose in six more localities, raising the total to 19 areas. Fourteen of these were in Ontario.

Experienced miners remained scarce for coal mining operations in the Prairie and Pacific regions, while unskilled workers were in demand

in the same areas and for metallic mining in Sudbury. There were surpluses of miners and mineworkers in coal mining districts of Nova Scotia, due to the cessation of some mining operations in Cape Breton and the New Glasgow area.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES — MALE

January 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Toronto.....	105	33			
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>					
Campbellton....	185	9	St. Georges		
Fredericton....	71	11	de Beauce.....	226	2
Sussex.....	51	4	St.Jos. d'Alma.	52	6
Buckingham....	113	-	Shawinigan Falls	1,047	10
Causapscal....	69	-	Val d'Or.....	328	5
Chandler (1)...	826	21	Kapuskasing....	229	9
Chicoutimi....	514	5	Kirkland Lake..	51	13
Dolbeau (2)....	863	1	Pembroke.....	94	13
Hull.....	240	27	Timmins.....	105	2
La Tuque.....	1,670	8	Port Arthur....	90	26
Matane.....	564	4	Dauphin.....	74	2
Mont Laurier...	343	1	The Pas.....	95	3
Quebec.....	409	7	Winnipeg.....	178	30
Rimouski.....	731	-	Edson.....	60	-
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Hull.....	101	5	Ottawa.....	44	11
Sorel.....	133	6	Weston.....	100	-
<u>Machine Shop Workers</u>					
Sorel.....	228	14			
<u>Sheet Metal Workers</u>					
St. John's.....	36	5			
<u>Miners</u>					
Blairmore.....	82	1	Courtenay.....	50	1
Lethbridge.....	91	4			

(1) Includes Gaspe and New Richmond in these tables.

(2) Includes Roberval in these tables.

Local Occupational Shortages—Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Routemen</u>					
Ottawa.....	38	12	St. Thomas....	64	4
<u>Unskilled jobs in:</u>					
<u>Lumber & Lumber Products</u>					
Edson.....	81	-			
<u>Mining</u>					
Sudbury.....	29	1	Edson.....	27	2
Blairmore.....	57	1			
<u>Transportation, Communication & P.U.</u>					
Moncton.....	257	51	Riviere du Loup	150	46

In determining the occupations and areas to be included in the foregoing table, National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers, first were examined. Where vacancies exceeded applications by fifty or more in any one occupational group, the occupation and area or areas affected were included in a preliminary listing. These data, however, tend to give a better picture of the supply side of the labour market than the demand side, for most job seekers find it to their advantage to use the facilities of the Employment Service when out of work because of the availability of unemployment insurance. There is not the same incentive for employers to list their job vacancies. Reference, therefore, is necessary to a variety of qualitative material, including reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by Local Employment Office managers. This results in refinements to the preliminary list, in the process of which some occupations and areas may be deleted and others, for which the early statistical evidence was less conclusive, may be added.

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LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SURPLUSES -- MALE

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
SKILLED & SEMI-SKILLED OCCUPATIONS					
			<u>Seamen</u>		
St. John's.....	160	-	Ste. Anne de		
Charlottetown..	30	-	Bellevue.....	37	-
Bridgewater....	25	-	Sorel.....	224	-
Halifax.....	65	-	Three Rivers....	144	-
Sydney.....	46	-	Collingwood.....	92	-
La Malbaie.....	204	-	Cornwall.....	49	-
Levis.....	88	-	Midland.....	185	-
Montmagny.....	48	-	Owen Sound.....	212	-
Montreal.....	189	-	Picton.....	26	-
Quebec.....	124	-	Vancouver.....	197	-
<u>Food & Tobacco Products</u>					
Charlottetown..	42	-	Quebec.....	77	-
Montreal.....	130	-			
			<u>Primary Textile Workers</u>		
Drummondville..	56	2	Shawinigan Falls	48	-
Farnham.....	29	-	Sherbrooke.....	115	-
Granby.....	144	-	Sorel.....	35	-
Montmagny.....	48	-	Valleyfield.....	52	-
Montreal.....	101	4	Victoriaville...	44	-
St. Georges			Carleton Place..	68	-
de Beauce....	28	-	Galt.....	25	-
St. Hyacinthe..	52	1	Hamilton.....	30	-
St. Jerome.....	26	-	Peterborough....	28	-
			Toronto.....	107	-
			<u>Secondary Textile Workers</u>		
Montreal.....	1,282	4	Toronto.....	1,071	3
Victoriaville..	41	3	Winnipeg.....	227	11
Guelph.....	23	-			
			<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>		
Gorner Brook...	33	-	Nanaimo.....	179	-
St. John's.....	168	-	Nelson.....	64	-
Bridgewater....	35	-	New Westminster	397	-
Truro.....	50	-	Port Alberni...	118	-
Edmundston....	28	-	Prince George..	68	-
Chilliwack.....	301	-	Prince Rupert..	52	-
Courtenay.....	180	-	Vancouver.....	862	-
Duncan.....	129	-	Vernon.....	35	6
Kelowna.....	26	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers</u>					
New Glasgow...	33	-	Nanaimo.....	40	-
Springhill....	38	-	Nelson.....	30	-
Truro.....	29	-	New Westminster.	204	-
Newcastle.....	27	-	Trail.....	38	-
St. Thomas....	26	-	Vancouver.....	409	4
Chilliwack....	35	-	Victoria.....	54	-
Courtenay.....	39	-			
<u>Cabinetmakers & Woodworkers</u>					
Victoriaville.	42	-	Stratford.....	25	-
Guelph.....	37	-	Toronto.....	131	2
Kitchener....	123	-	Vancouver.....	132	-
Owen Sound....	103	-			
<u>Rubber Products</u>					
St. Jerome....	49	-			
<u>Pulp, Paper & Paper Products</u>					
Asbestos.....	26	-	Causapscal.....	54	-
<u>Boot & Shoe Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	231	16	St. George de		
Quebec.....	281	2	Beauce.....	39	-
			Shawinigan Falls	39	-
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Vancouver.....	179	25			
<u>Foundry Workers</u>					
Montmagny.....	82	-	St. Catharines..	179	1
Ingersoll.....	29	-	Toronto.....	124	8
Oshawa.....	90	-			
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
New Glasgow... 136		-	Levis.....	50	-
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
New Glasgow... 27		-	Hamilton.....	110	10
Sorel..... 30		-	Windsor.....	87	5
Chatham, Ont.. 43		-	Vancouver.....	162	-
<u>Electricians</u>					
Montreal..... 94		-	Vancouver.....	111	-
Toronto..... 110		7			

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Automobile Workers</u>					
Oshawa.....	318	-	Windsor.....	171	-
<u>Miners</u>					
Amherst.....	21	-	New Glasgow....	53	-
Inverness.....	30	-			
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>					
Montreal.....	165	5	Toronto.....	309	-
Quebec.....	151	3	Windsor.....	111	-
Pembroke.....	91	-			
<u>Carpenters</u>					
Corner Brook...	39	-	Joliette.....	164	-
Grand Falls....	51	-	Jonquiere.....	38	-
St. John's.....	529	16	Lachute.....	36	-
Charlottetown..	94	-	La Tuque.....	26	-
Summerside.....	77	-	Levis.....	158	25
Amherst.....	60	-	Montmagny.....	88	-
Bridgewater....	69	-	Montreal.....	1,376	-
Halifax.....	120	20	Quebec.....	608	6
Kentville.....	92	-	Rimouski.....	76	3
New Glasgow....	68	-	Riviere du Loup	61	-
Springhill.....	25	-	Rouyn.....	39	-
Sydney.....	152	-	Ste. Agathe....	59	-
Truro.....	30	-	Ste. Anne de		
Yarmouth.....	167	-	Bellevue.....	103	-
Bathurst.....	109	-	St. Georges de		
Campbellton....	40	-	Beauce.....	66	-
Edmundston....	50	-	St. Hyacinthe..	127	-
Fredericton....	48	-	St. Jean.....	33	-
Moncton.....	342	8	St. Jerome.....	171	-
Newcastle.....	53	-	Ste. Therese... 148		-
Saint John.....	97	3	Shawinigan Falls	182	8
St. Stephen....	35	-	Sherbrooke....	137	-
Sussex.....	28	-	Sorel.....	85	2
Beauharnois....	30	-	Thetford Mines.	70	-
Buckingham....	47	-	Three Rivers... 269		2
Chandler.....	101	-	Valleyfield....	137	-
Chicoutimi....	56	-	Victoriaville..	79	-
Drummondville..	106	-	Barrie.....	58	-
Farnham.....	44	-	Belleville.....	52	-
Granby.....	62	-	Bracebridge....	44	-
Hull.....	157	-	Brantford.....	71	0

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Carpenters (Cont'd)</u>					
Carleton Place.	51	1	Dauphin.....	46	-
Cobourg.....	32	-	Flin Flon.....	46	-
Collingwood....	26	-	Winnipeg.....	929	4
Cornwall.....	92	-	Moose Jaw.....	32	-
Guelph.....	40	-	Prince Albert...	79	7
Hamilton.....	284	-	Regina.....	153	-
Hawkesbury.....	43	-	Saskatoon.....	138	5
Kingston.....	50	-	Swift Current...	43	-
Kitchener.....	38	-	Yorkton.....	97	-
Leamington.....	78	1	Calgary.....	502	-
Lindsay.....	34	1	Edmonton.....	687	1
London.....	191	-	Lethbridge.....	192	-
Midland.....	26	-	Medicine Hat....	42	-
Napanee.....	27	-	Red Deer.....	35	8
Niagara Falls..	64	-	Dawson Creek....	28	-
North Bay.....	88	-	Chilliwack.....	177	-
Orillia.....	32	-	Courtenay.....	53	-
Oshawa.....	107	-	Cranbrook.....	27	-
Ottawa.....	155	3	Duncan.....	46	-
Owen Sound.....	59	-	Kamloops.....	32	-
Peterborough...	77	-	Kelowna.....	106	-
Prescott.....	41	-	Nanaimo.....	82	-
St. Catharines..	96	-	Nelson.....	105	-
Sarnia.....	84	-	New Westminster.	389	-
Simcoe.....	36	-	Penticton.....	106	-
Sudbury.....	107	-	Port Alberni....	47	-
Toronto.....	1,204	4	Prince George... 46	-	
Trenton.....	42	-	Prince Rupert... 37	-	
Welland.....	25	-	Trail.....	66	7
Windsor.....	194	-	Vancouver.....	1,206	-
Port Arthur....	105	2	Vernon.....	87	-
Brandon.....	60	-	Victoria.....	226	-

Painters, Construction & Maintenance

St. John's.....	58	-	Cornwall.....	27	-
Yarmouth.....	26	-	Hamilton.....	149	1
Joliette.....	30	-	Kapuskasing....	41	-
Levis.....	32	-	Ottawa.....	90	-
Montreal.....	1,092	2	Picton.....	31	-
Quebec.....	240	-	Toronto.....	666	-
St. Hyacinthe..	45	-	Windsor.....	77	-
St. Therese....	25	-	Winnipeg.....	291	5
Shawinigan Falls	81	-	Calgary.....	74	-
Sherbrooke.....	54	-	Vancouver.....	418	-
Three Rivers....	115	2			

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Plasterers</u>					
Montreal.....	163	-	Toronto.....	137	1
<u>Plumbers & Steam Fitters</u>					
Montreal.....	216	8	Vancouver.....	130	-
<u>Cranemen & Shovelmen</u>					
Chilliwack.....	53	-	Vancouver.....	141	-
Duncan.....	30	-			
<u>Stationary Engineers & Firemen</u>					
Courtenay.....	36	-	Vancouver.....	141	-
New Westminster	105	-			

UNSKILLED OCCUPATIONS IN

<u>Food & Tobacco Products</u>					
Kentville.....	69	-	Napanee.....	31	-
Bathurst.....	162	-	Peterborough....	49	-
Moncton.....	156	-	Port Colborne....	33	-
St. Stephen....	39	-	Simcoe.....	37	-
Drummondville..	262	2	Toronto.....	225	3
Granby.....	58	-	Wallaceburg.....	58	-
Montreal.....	189	-	Winnipeg.....	130	1
Chatham, Ont...	85	-	Kelowna.....	44	-
Kirkland Lake..	84	-	Vancouver.....	180	-
London.....	57	1			

<u>Textiles (Primary & Secondary)</u>					
Drummondville..	262	2	Valleyfield.....	61	-
Granby.....	58	-	Carleton Place...	50	-
Montmagny.....	35	-	Cornwall.....	72	-
St. Hyacinthe..	57	-	Galt.....	49	-
St. Jerome.....	46	-	London.....	55	-
Sherbrooke.....	121	-	Toronto.....	144	8
Three Rivers...	101	-			

<u>Lumber & Lumber Products</u>					
New Glasgow....	25	-	Chandler.....	47	-
Springhill.....	33	-	Levis.....	45	5
Truro.....	31	-	Matane.....	32	-
Bathurst.....	36	-	Megantic.....	62	-
Newcastle.....	75	-	quebec.....	59	-
Buckingham.....	72	-	Riviere du Loup..	102	-

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Lumber & Lumber Products (Cont'd)</u>					
Ste. Anne de Bellevue.....	36	-	Chilliwack.....	132	-
Ste. Therese...	41	-	Courtenay.....	194	-
Three Rivers...	51	-	Cranbrook.....	39	-
Victoriaville..	153	-	Duncan.....	124	-
Arnprior.....	26	-	Kamloops.....	54	7
Bracebridge....	52	-	Kelowna.....	60	-
Carleton Place.	50	-	Nanaimo.....	114	-
Cornwall.....	72	-	Nelson.....	83	-
Galt.....	49	-	New Westminster.	651	-
London.....	55	-	Penticton.....	45	-
Sturgeon Falls.	45	-	Port Alberni....	62	-
Toronto.....	133	-	Prince George...	86	30
Walkerton.....	65	-	Vancouver.....	1,001	-
Woodstock, Ont.	37	-	Vernon.....	107	1
Fort Francis...	36	2	Victoria.....	130	-
<u>Stone, Clay & Glass Products</u>					
Asbestos.....	31	3	Wallaceburg.....	46	-
Thetford Mines.	49	-			
<u>Metalworking</u>					
Joliette.....	28	-	Napanee.....	61	-
Montmagny.....	82	-	North Bay.....	32	-
Montreal.....	353	2	Owen Sound.....	37	-
Victoriaville..	27	-	Port Colborne...	43	-
Brantford.....	246	-	St. Catharines..	175	-
Galt.....	104	3	Toronto.....	699	6
Gananoque.....	38	-	Wallaceburg.....	103	-
Guelph.....	32	-	Welland.....	162	4
Hamilton.....	304	-	Winnipeg.....	117	-
London.....	699	-			
<u>Transportation Equipment Mfg.</u>					
New Glasgow....	70	-	Leamington.....	243	-
Levis.....	35	-	Midland.....	34	-
Chatham Ont....	114	-	Windsor.....	703	-
<u>Mining</u>					
Inverness.....	45	-	New Glasgow.....	43	-

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Construction</u>					
St. John's.....	350	25	Brantford.....	81	-
Charlottetown...	76	-	Chatham, Ont....	146	-
Summerside.....	33	-	Collingwood.....	64	-
Bridgewater.....	22	-	Galt.....	37	-
Halifax.....	227	14	Goderich.....	26	-
Inverness.....	41	-	Guelph.....	48	2
New Glasgow.....	80	-	Hamilton.....	357	26
Sydney.....	115	-	Hawkesbury.....	105	-
Truro.....	28	-	Kingston.....	29	-
Yarmouth.....	84	-	Leamington.....	26	-
Bathurst.....	38	-	Lindsay.....	43	-
Campbellton....	41	-	London.....	245	-
Moncton.....	275	26	Midland.....	64	-
St. Stephen.....	27	-	Niagara Falls...	122	-
Beauharnois.....	62	-	North Bay.....	34	-
Buckingham.....	49	-	Oshawa.....	119	-
Chicoutimi.....	117	-	Ottawa.....	352	-
Granby.....	64	-	Owen Sound.....	80	-
Hull.....	141	-	Perth.....	38	-
Joliette.....	55	-	Peterborough....	70	-
Jonquiere.....	44	-	Picton.....	26	-
La Tuque.....	39	-	Prescott.....	227	-
Levis.....	104	79	St. Catharines..	92	3
Megantic.....	39	-	St. Thomas.....	32	-
Montmagny.....	74	-	Sarnia.....	186	-
Montreal.....	1,095	17	Smiths Falls....	50	-
Quebec.....	817	10	Stratford.....	27	-
Riviere du Loup.	34	-	Toronto.....	1,557	9
Ste. Agathe.....	62	-	Trenton.....	54	-
Ste. Anne de			Walkerton.....	49	-
Bellevue.....	65	-	Welland.....	108	-
St. Hyacinthe...	160	-	Windsor.....	351	-
St. Jean.....	97	-	Port Arthur.....	86	-
St. Jerome.....	178	-	Brandon.....	85	-
Ste. Therese.....	206	-	Dauphin.....	114	-
Shawinigan Falls	293	-	Flin Flon.....	95	-
Sherbrooke.....	154	-	Winnipeg.....	1,159	28
Thetford Mines..	79	-	Moose Jaw.....	74	26
Three Rivers....	246	4	North Battleford	109	1
Valleyfield.....	78	5	Prince Albert...	105	-
Victoriaville...	36	-	Regina.....	274	-
Arnprior.....	30	-	Saskatoon.....	243	-
Barrie.....	86	-	Swift Current...	64	-
Bracebridge.....	30	-	Yorkton.....	109	-

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
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Construction (Cont'd)

Calgary.....	66	-	Nanaimo.....	37	-
Edmonton.....	396	10	New Westminster.	281	-
Lethbridge.....	88	-	Penticton.....	66	-
Medicine Hat...	36	-	Port Alberni....	26	-
Red Deer.....	27	-	Vancouver.....	635	2
Chilliwack.....	46	-	Victoria.....	108	-
Cranbrook.....	27	-			
Kelowna.....	28	-			

Pulp, Paper & Paper Products

Grand Falls....	99	-	Quebec.....	83	-
Edmundston.....	35	-	Three Rivers...	150	-
Buckingham.....	27	-	London.....	81	-
Hull.....	54	-			

Longshoremen

St. John's.....	299	-	Port Alfred....	63	-
Halifax.....	221	-	Quebec.....	740	-
Campbellton....	26	-	Three Rivers...	67	-
Saint John.....	313	-	Courtenay.....	28	-
Montreal.....	1,488	-	New Westminster	118	-

Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities

Edmundston.....	25	-	Midland.....	99	-
Montreal.....	250	-	Toronto.....	140	-
Quebec.....	118	-	Saskatoon.....	44	-

The foregoing table lists the areas in which there were, at January 1, 1952, excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations. The basis on which the table was built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is

over 100,000
50,000 to 100,000
25,000 to 50,000
under 25,000

The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was

100 or more
75 or more
50 or more
25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service Offices. Clerical and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e.g. foremen, apprentices, other unskilled workers).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS
(Preliminary Data)

Item	1951		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>					
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.	Dec. 27	266,581	+ 28.2	+ 17.5	- 20.3
Per cent of labour force.....	Dec. 27	5.1	4.0x	4.4x	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	Dec. 27	7.0	5.5x	6.2x	-
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C.....	Jan. 1	238,950	+ 55.5	+ 25.7	-
Per cent of insured population....	Jan. 1	8.3	5.4x	6.8x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Jan. 1	89.6	73.9x	83.8x	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$'000)...	December	6,923	+ 35.6	+ 30.4	- 19.6
Index of employment (1939=100).....	Nov. 1	186.2	- 0.2	+ 4.5	+ 7.5
Immigration.....	Nov. 1	22,242	- 1.5	+225.7	+161.3
<u>Earnings and Income</u>					
Total labour income (\$'000,000).....	October	855	+ 0.8	+ 16.2	+ 17.0
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	Nov. 1	\$51.97	+ 0.7	+ 12.3	+ 10.4
Average hourly wages (mfg.).....	Nov. 1	\$ 1.24	+ 1.3	+ 16.1	+ 12.5
Average hrs. worked per week (mfg.)..	Nov. 1	41.8	- 0.2	- 2.8	- 0.9
Average weekly wages (mfg.).....	Nov. 1	\$51.62	+ 1.1	+ 12.8	+ 11.4
Cost-of-living index (Av.1935-39=100)	Dec. 1	191.1	- 0.1	+ 11.7	+ 10.8
Real weekly wages (mfg.Av.1946=100).	Nov. 1	111.7	+ 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.6
<u>Industrial Production</u>					
Total (Av. 1935-39=100).....	November	208.1	- 1.8	- 1.2	+ 8.0
Manufacturing Index.....	November	213.7	- 2.2	- 3.3	+ 6.9
Durables.....	November	253.9	- 1.0	- 3.3	+ 11.1
Non-durables.....	November	190.2	- 3.2	- 3.3	+ 3.7
<u>Industrial Relations</u>					
Strikes and lockouts-days lost.....	December	117,045	+205.5	+1282.7	- 37.2

(x) These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH BRANCH

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Economics & Research Branch

Department of Labour

authorized by

Hon. Milton F. Gregg, V.C.
Minister

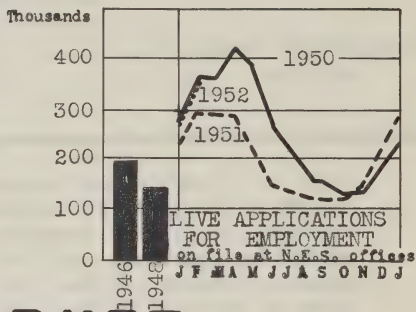
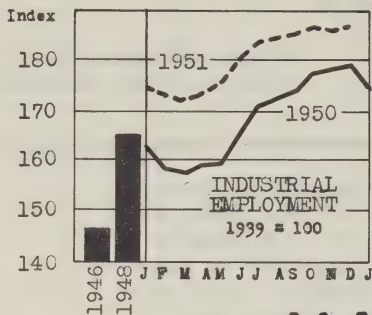
Arthur MacNamara, C.M.G.,
L.L.D., Deputy Minister

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

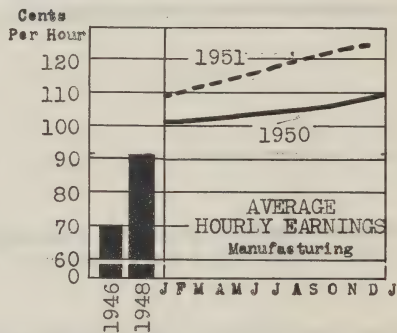
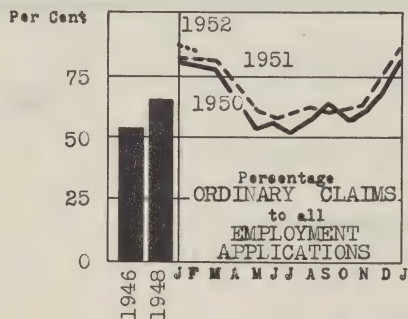
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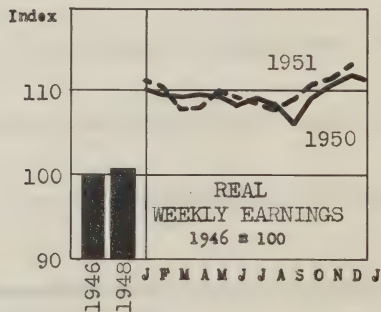
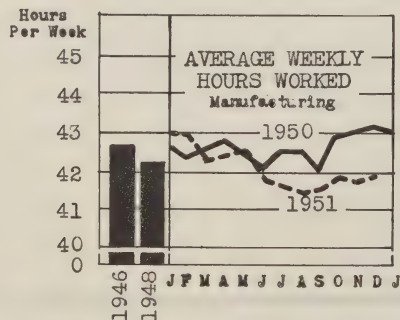
LABOUR



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TRENDS



CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

The large increases in unemployment caused by seasonal lay-offs that were occurring throughout January now appear to have ended. At February 21, 1952, the number of applications for employment listed with the National Employment Service totalled 370,000, about 9.5 per cent of all wage and salary workers, including both those employed and those unemployed. The increase in this figure has dropped sharply in recent weeks; the weekly rise in the first half of January averaged 33,000, dropped to 14,000 in the latter part of January, amounted to 5,000 in the first week of February and to only 1,000 in the following two weeks.

Apart from those recent changes in the labour market situation that can be attributed to customary seasonal employment declines, labour market changes in the last six to eight months have reflected clearly the economic adjustments that have been occurring. Of particular significance for manpower developments in 1951 and 1952 was the way in which consumers spent that part of their incomes which they did not save. There was a marked shift in consumer spending during the latter part of 1951 from consumer durables and clothing to food, beverages and services. The effect of this change was quite noticeable on employment in various manufacturing industries. In the twelve months ending December 1, 1951, for instance, employment in consumer non-durables industries, excluding food and beverages, declined by 22,000, while a similar decline of 12,000 occurred in consumer durable goods industries. On the other hand, employment increased by 3,600 during this period in the food and beverages industries.

Meanwhile, employment levels in the 15 industries that are most directly involved in the defence program rose by a total of 32,000 in the year ending December 1, 1951. This employment increase is the net result not only of the defence program but also of all influences affecting these industries. The largest employment gains have occurred in the aircraft, shipbuilding, electrical apparatus, base metal mining and smelting industries. Procurement schedules of the Department of Defence Production indicate that production and employment levels in defence-associated industries will continue to rise throughout 1952 and this is substantiated by employers' forecasts for the next six months. Employers' expectations, however, suggest that the rate of employment increase will not be quite as great as in the same period of 1951.

The changing demand situation for homes has also had an impact on the labour market. The fact that housing starts were down by as much as 47 per cent in the last three months of 1951 as compared with the same period in 1950, while housing completions were only 21 per cent fewer, has meant a much smaller carry-over of residential construction work during the winter months. As a result, unemployment is higher this winter than last among almost all of the building trades. The large volume of industrial development and construction work under way has by no means completely

offset this unemployment, because its needs were for different types of workers in different areas, so that even with considerable labour mobility all of the necessary adjustments could not be expected to occur.

Although total employment in Canada continues to exceed last year's levels, the gain over the year at present is significantly less than the increase that has occurred in manpower supplies. According to the latest data available, total employment is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent greater than a year ago. This falls short of the 2 to 3 per cent growth that has taken place in the labour force, through the natural increase of the population and net migration to Canada.

The natural growth of the population added about 60,000 workers to the labour force during 1951. Most of these people entered the labour market in spring and early summer when the school term ended and this will again be the pattern in 1952.

An important addition to manpower supplies in Canada was made during 1951 through immigration. Immigrants coming to Canada amounted to 194,000 in 1951, of whom 114,000 were workers. The effect of this immigration was much greater in Ontario than in any other region. For all of Canada, immigrant workers amounted to 2.0 per cent of the labour force; in Ontario, the comparable figure was 3.0 per cent while in all of the other regions it was less than the national average.

Labour supplies in Canada have been reduced through emigration. It is difficult to judge the extent of emigration from Canada since no complete count is made of those leaving the country. A general idea of this loss can be attained, however, through an indirect estimate. At June 1, 1941, the population of Canada amounted to 11,440,000. In the following ten years, the excess of births over deaths totalled 1,989,000, immigration totalled 548,000 and the entry of Newfoundland into confederation added another 344,000 people. The total of these figures, 14,371,000, indicates what the population would have been at June 1, 1951, had there been no emigration. At this later date, the population actually amounted to 14,009,000. The difference between these two latter figures, 362,000, represents an estimate of the total volume of emigration over these ten years. In other words, emigration averaged 36,000 a year over this period. Even if the loss were greater in the post-war years and totalled as much as 50,000 a year, there was still a substantial net migration to Canada during 1951.

<u>Labour Market Groups</u>	<u>Number of Areas</u>		
	<u>Feb. 15</u>	<u>Feb. 1</u>	<u>Jan. 1</u>
1. Substantial labour surplus.....	34	31	16
2. Moderate labour surplus.....	49	44	26
3. Slight labour surplus.....	79	82	87
4. Balanced labour market.....	16	21	49
5. Marked labour shortages.....	-	-	-

Non-Ferrous Metals Industry Expansion Highlights B.C. Industrial Development

Industrial expansion in British Columbia at the present time is largely a growth of established industries such as pulp and paper (1), wood products and non-ferrous metals.

A highlight of the picture is the expansionary program at Kitimat, where the Aluminum Co. of Canada Ltd. has started the largest single industrial development project in the history of the province.

The first stage of this project consists of the construction of a 450,000 h.p. hydro-electric plant, and an aluminum smelter at Kitimat, a site that can be reached by ocean-going vessels. This part of the program is scheduled for completion in about three years; at that rate the first aluminum production in British Columbia will take place sometime in 1954. Plant capacity is estimated at from 80,000 to 100,000 metric tons of aluminum annually.

Only the first stage of the British Columbia project is underway at the present time, employing approximately 3,500 construction workers, while in 1952 at least 4,000 men should be required.

The second stage of the project may be carried out between 1954 and 1956, providing international aluminum markets continue sufficiently strong during that period. This stage would raise the total hydro-electric power developed to 1,600,000 h.p., and additions to the Kitimat smelter would increase its annual output to 500,000 metric tons of aluminum.

If all intentions are carried out, over 13,000 men will be required to operate this undertaking, and investment on the project will run as high as \$550 million.

Another major expansion is taking place in the British Columbia plywood industry. MacMillan & Bloedel expansions at Port Alberni and Vancouver will soon employ a total of 325 additional workers, although the Alberni project is presently held up by non-delivery of machinery. In addition, British Columbia Forest Products Ltd. at Victoria is building a new plywood mill which will soon employ 225 more workers. Also in 1952, the Sooke Lake Lumber Ltd. at Esquimalt is building a new veneer plant which will employ 50 workers.

At Kimberly, the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. is building a new \$10 million ammonia phosphate fertilizer plant which will provide 150 new jobs by the end of 1952. Zinc plant enlargements at Trail will require 50 additional workers about June.

-
- (1) See January, 1952 issue of C.L.M. for discussion of expansion in this industry.

There is probably no better illustration of the tremendous growth of industrial expansion in manufacturing industry than the value of industrial contracts awarded in recent years. The total for 1951 was no less than \$82.8 million, compared to \$4.3 million in 1950 and \$2.8 million in 1949.

A summary of the industrial projects discussed in this article and in the January issue of the Canadian Labour Market suggests that a total of 20,000 new jobs is not too optimistic an estimate, providing employment in the present and in the near future for about 16,000 production workers.

ESTIMATED INCREASE IN MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT
AS A RESULT OF PLANT EXPANSION (1)

- First Quarter, 1952 -

Area	Name of Company	Industry	Number of new Employees
<u>Atlantic</u>			
St. John's			
Nfld.	Northlantic Fisheries	Food and Beverages	300
Louisburg	National Sea Products	Food and Beverages	200
<u>Quebec</u>			
St. Johns	Brown Boveri (Can) Ltd.	Electrical Apparatus	250
Sorel	Cdn. Celanese Ltd.	Textile Products	150
St. Malo	Cdn. General Electric Co.	Electrical Apparatus	150
<u>Ontario</u>			
Brampton	Dixie Cup Co. (Can) Ltd.	Paper Products	100
Chippawa	Norton Co. Ltd.	Non-metallic Minerals	100
Merritton	Alliance Paper Mills	Paper Products	30
Toronto	A. G. Baird Ltd.	Iron and Steel Products	15
	Cdn. General Electric Co.	Electrical Apparatus	400
	The Cudahy Packing Co.	Chemical Products	10
<u>Prairies</u>			
Lloydminster			
Sask.	Dominion Products Co.	Non-metallic Minerals	3
<u>Pacific</u>			
Bamberton	British Columbia Cement	Non-metallic Minerals	25

(1) All employment information contained in the table has been confirmed by direct contact with the firm concerned.

Further Non-Seasonal Lay-Offs From Consumer Goods Manufacturing Reflect Weak Markets

Reported non-seasonal lay-offs in manufacturing during January followed the pattern of lay-offs in recent months, with firms producing consumer durable goods, textiles, leather products, furniture, and more recently, builders' hardware, continuing to release workers. Severe winter weather caused heavy unemployment amongst British Columbia loggers and saw-mill workers.

The Canadian textile industry is reacting to a marked shortage of orders, and relatively more workers have been laid off or are working short-time than in any other industry. Since April 1, 1951 reported employment in the whole textile industry shows a drop by December 1, of 21,000 workers, approximately 13,000 workers being in clothing and about 8,000 in primary textiles.

Defense orders are playing an important part in keeping plants operating in many areas. For instance, depressed employment conditions in the Ottawa valley are being partially relieved by defense contracts.

Also hard hit by a shortage of orders are firms producing household appliances. This group released about 800 workers in January. Kelvinator of Canada Ltd. at London released 325 workers and started a three day week on January 14. An electrical appliance firm at Montreal laid off 200 workers, and five other separations of about 50 men each occurred from other firms. General Steel Wares Ltd. at London released a further 100 workers. The cabinet division of R.C.A. Victor, at Owen Sound, put 200 workers on a four day week.

About 10,000 British Columbia loggers and several thousand saw-mill workers have been idle since the Christmas shutdown because of heavy snow. The shutdown of logging operations in January and February on this account is not unusual, but following as it did on the heels of a prolonged closure last summer, because of the fire hazard, its impact has been felt more severely. In addition, some of the smaller saw-mills have been forced out of business by high operating costs.

January was the first month since last May that some auto or auto parts manufacturing firm did not lay-off workers because of lack of orders.

There has been a considerable slackening in firms producing builders' hardware and plumbing and heating supplies. About 600 workers were released from establishments in this group. While these lay-offs are occurring at a time when the industry is seasonally slack, the main reason was the marked drop in housing starts during 1951 and the resulting drop in orders. Thus these lay-offs are shown in the accompanying table.

The leather and furniture manufacturing industries have been depressed for some time now, and several additional, if not heavy lay-offs occurred in establishments in these industries during January. The employment index for furniture manufacturing dropped from 182.9 at December 1, 1950 to 163.5 at the same date in 1951. For leather products manufacturing, the official index was 119.0 at the earlier date and 105.7 at the more current date.

Lay-offs from tobacco manufacturing plants began only in November, when a drop in consumer sales of the industry's products became apparent. Releases of a further 100 workers during January brought the total number of tobacco workers laid off to almost 500.

Reported Non-Seasonal Lay-offs in Manufacturing by Industry

January, 1952

Industry	Reported Lay-offs (1) During January, 1952		Employment at December 1, 1951 (2)	
	Number of Plants	Number of Workers	Number	Change from last year %
Iron and steel products.	22	1,400	179,100	+ 7.2
Transportation equipment	6	500	134,500	+ 16.8
Clothing.....	8	400	91,100	- 8.4
Wood products.....	11	250	82,800	- 4.4
Paper products.....	2	20	77,200	+ 5.8
Textile products.....	10	900	70,700	- 7.7
Electrical apparatus....	9	750	62,800	+ 0.5
Non-metallic mineral....	1	40	27,100	+ 2.2
Leather products.....	5	150	26,600	- 10.9
Rubber products.....	1	200	19,700	- 9.0
Tobacco products.....	1	90	10,700	+ 6.0
Other (3).....	-	-	305,100	+ 3.0
Totals.....	76	4,700	1,087,400	+ 2.1

(1) As reported by National Employment Service offices.

(2) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D. B. S..

(3) Employment in the six industries in which no non-seasonal lay-offs were reported in January, 1952.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

FEBRUARY 1, 1952

Number of Areas

Labour Market Groupings ¹	CANADA	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	PRAIRIES	PACIFIC
1. Substantial Labour Surplus	31	7	10	5	-	9
2. Moderate Labour Surplus	44	7	15	16	1	5
3. Slight Labour Surplus	82	13	15	32	18	4
4. Balanced Labour Market	21	-	3	8	10	-
5. Marked Labour Shortages	-	-	-	-	-	-
Per cent job applications to wage and salary workers	9.3	10.8	9.2	7.8	8.1	16.2

¹For definition of groupings, see key to map chart on following page.

The full impact of seasonal unemployment, coupled with the availability of supplementary unemployment insurance benefits, brought a heavy increase in the number of job seekers registered with the National Employment Service during January. By the end of the month, total job applications reached 362,800, representing about 7 per cent of the total civilian labour force and 9.3 per cent of total wage and salary workers in Canada. The weekly rate of increase fell off markedly after the middle of the month, when conditions began to settle down following the year-end flurry of lay-offs, work time cuts and extended vacations.

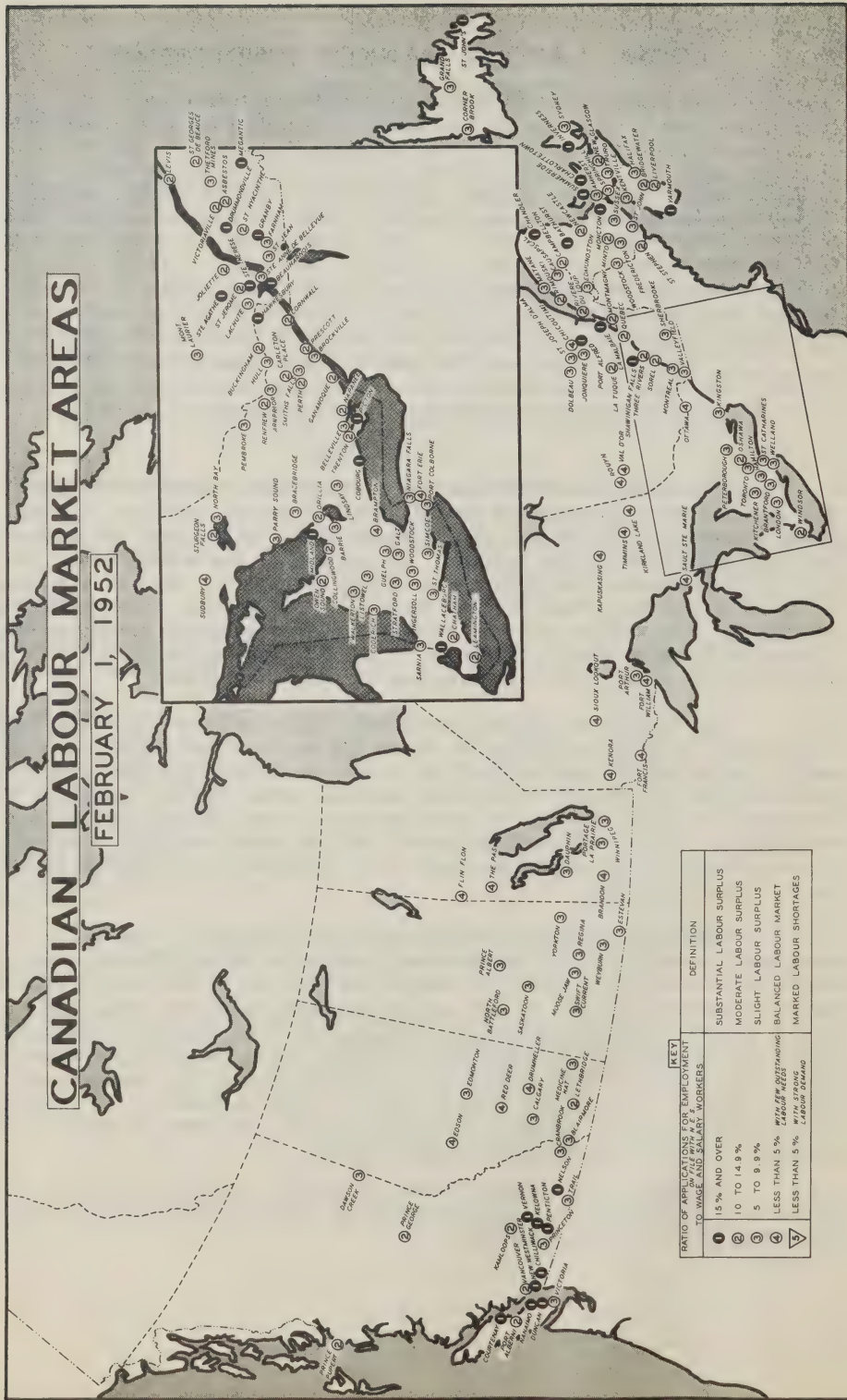
By the end of January there were twice as many localities with substantial manpower surpluses as there had been at the beginning of the month, and almost 90 per cent of all local areas showed labour surpluses, against just over 70 per cent at the earlier date. At the beginning of February, 1951, 80 per cent of Canadian local areas showed substantial, moderate or slight manpower surpluses; and the more favourable over-all picture then was due almost entirely to a stronger labour market position in the Ontario region.

The unusually heavy volume of short-time work, especially in Ontario and Quebec manufacturing centres, persisted through January with no significant change. Workers on short-time claiming unemployment insurance benefits numbered 40,700 at the end of December, when the total was about 29,000 higher than a year earlier; and 39,600 at the end of January, 32,000 above the year-ago level. The usual drop in the number of short-time benefit claims during January was far less extensive than in previous years, chiefly due to a continuing rise in these claims in Ontario. A graphic comparison of earlier short-time claims data may be found on page 10 of the December issue of the CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET.

At the end of January there were 30,700 active claims for supplementary unemployment insurance in U.I.C. files. This compares with 27,100 at the same time in 1951.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

FEBRUARY 1, 1952



KEY

RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT TO WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS

DEFINITION	
SUBSTANTIAL LABOUR SURPLUS	1
MODERATE LABOUR SURPLUS	2
SLIGHT LABOUR SURPLUS	3
BALANCED LABOUR MARKET	4
MARKED LABOUR SHORTAGES	5

During January, an accelerated decline in employment activity in the Atlantic region reflected, in the main, the interplay of seasonal factors inherent in the basic structure of the economy. Due to the predominance of primary industries in the region, employment is particularly vulnerable to climatic conditions, witnessed during the month under review by a pronounced increase in the number of job seekers. Continued slackening in the construction industry, seasonal declines in fishing and fish processing and the change-over from wood cutting to hauling were the dominating factors in accelerating this decline in employment.

Although registrations with the National Employment Service were 50% higher than a month earlier, bringing the total to some 42,400 at January 31, the over-all employment situation is only slightly less favourable than one year ago and considerably better than in the 1946-1950 period. Manufacturing, with the exception of some textile and heating equipment plants, has maintained a high level of activity.

Although only small lay-offs were experienced in the textile industry during the month, appearing solely in the Fredericton and St. Stephen areas, short-time work was general throughout the industry. The only indication of improvement in textiles occurred in the Truro area.

Diminishing employment opportunities had the effect of swelling the labour surplus pool. The most pronounced increases occurred in the St. John's, Bathurst, and Yarmouth areas, while Charlottetown, Summerside, Inverness and Moncton, previously in the moderate labour surplus grouping, showed a more gradual deterioration.

Job seekers became more numerous in Newfoundland as seasonal slackening in construction, coastal navigation and port activity worsened the employment picture, particularly in the St. John's area. The Prince Edward Island employment picture was responding to the usual seasonal inactivity in agriculture and construction and the closing of the north shore port, but currently has more men employed than at any time since the second World War. Unfavourable weather conditions greatly curtailed woods work and prohibited other seasonal activities such as smelt fishing and ice harvesting in the Bathurst and Yarmouth areas, while in Moncton progressive lay-offs in heating equipment plants have been the primary reason for the steady rise in N. E. S. registrations. In Inverness, workers released from seasonal occupations were unable to secure alternative employment.

A high level of activity in shipbuilding in Bridgewater, Liverpool, Halifax and Saint John coupled with dock work in the larger centres, arrested the downward trend of employment in those areas.

QUEBEC At January 31, 1952 the number of active job applications filed with the National Employment Service in Quebec had climbed to 104,500 as compared to 87,700 at the same time a year earlier. Registered job vacancies stood at 8,600 as against 15,000 in 1951. The rather substantial increase in job applications over the month (25,000) increased local manpower surpluses in most areas of the region.

Employment in agriculture was at its usual low ebb in January, with farm activities at a standstill, although N.E.S. offices already have received requests for 700 immigrants for summer work on farms. Ice cutting was expected to create a temporary demand for workers. Activity in forestry was quite high, although many loggers only started returning from Christmas holidays to the woods during the second half of the month. Too much snow hampered cutting in the East, while in the North-western parts of the province log hauling was hindered by lack of snow. Sawmills were becoming increasingly active as hauling advanced.

Mines, metallic and non-metallic, were adequately staffed, but employers forecast a high turnover for the spring. There was little demand for skilled miners. In asbestos mining, a new collective agreement calling for a 40-hour work week will increase the number of workers on payrolls.

Employment conditions in consumer durables and semi-durables manufacturing continued the unfavourable trend of recent months. The most depressed sector still was the textiles group, where not much improvement in employment is expected for some months. However, in Victoriaville and Quebec there were signs of a revival and the employment picture was brightened by the award of \$2 million in defence contracts to two clothing firms in the former and to a new ladies garment factory, which reported 150 vacancies, in the latter. Defence contracts also were helping to improve employment conditions in the footwear industry. Furniture manufacturers did not receive the increased volume of orders that was expected to follow the annual furniture show. The food industry, particularly meat packing and creameries, lost rapidly the vigor generated by the Christmas trade.

The brightest spots in the manufacturing sector of the labour market were the aircraft, pulp and paper and chemicals industries, where production and employment moved to still higher levels during January. The railway rolling stock and shipbuilding industries remained steadily active.

At the end of January, ten localities showed substantial labour surpluses, compared to eight at the beginning of the month. Manpower surpluses, formerly substantial, were reduced to moderate proportions during January by the return to work of 220 assorted metal tradesmen in Montmagny and of 500 rubber products workers in St. Jerome. Conditions remained roughly the same over the month in Chandler, Granby, La Malbaie, Megantic, Port Alfred and Ste. Therese. Increasing unemployment, however, brought

substantial surpluses to Beauharnois, Drummondville, Ste. Agathe, Shawinigan Falls. Heavier and continuing lay-offs of construction, food processing, tobacco, lumber, textile, boot and shoe and chemical workers, machinists and millwrights account for these growing surpluses.

Short time claims for unemployment in the region, while still almost 14,000 more numerous than a year earlier, dropped about 3,000 during January. This reflects, in part, the usual resumption of normal work hours for some workers, but may include this winter a heavier proportion of workers exhausting benefit entitlements.

January opened with 44 (72 per cent) of Ontario's local areas **ONTARIO** in the labour surplus categories, and closed with 53 (87 per cent) in those categories. The full impact of seasonal unemployment, coupled with continuing non-seasonal lay-offs in some manufacturing industries, brought an increase of 25,500 registrations with the N.E.S., to a month-end total of 110,500—more than 60 per cent above the February 1, 1951 level.

The year-end flurry of lay-offs, reductions in working hours and extended Christmas vacations temporarily obscured the employment picture in many Ontario region localities. By mid-January, however, there was somewhat more clarity and small, scattered recalls, together with light hirings for defence work, lent a more favourable aspect to employment conditions in some manufacturing centres. In general, though, short-time work and indefinite lay-offs continued to be the most prominent characteristic of textiles, clothing, leather, rubber, furniture and consumer electrical goods manufacturing. Steel-using industries still feel the threat, if not the fact, of steel shortages which have, in some cases, caused lay-offs and impeded expansion of output and employment.

The recall of more than 150 auto workers to their jobs in Windsor reduced the man-power surplus in Leamington from substantial to moderate proportions. The other two localities in which there were substantial surpluses at the beginning of January, Cobourg and Wallaceburg, remained in that category at the end of the month. In the former there was a further rise in job applications during January, due chiefly to additional registrations of construction workers and seamen; but the situation in the latter was unchanged over the month. Seasonal lay-offs of construction and pulp mill workers were the principal causes of a substantial surplus in the Hawkesbury local area, where heavy snow has hampered smaller woods operators. Great Lakes seamen, dock workers, freight handlers and construction workers swelled the manpower surplus in Midland, bringing it to the "substantial" level despite some improvement in local textile, clothing and footwear employment, and high-level shipyard activity. Slackness in seasonal activities and in the manufacture of footwear brought a substantial labour surplus to the Pictou area by the end of January.

The most pronounced changes over the month in the level of applications for work filed with N.E.S. offices took place in Sudbury and Kirkland Lake where, despite seasonal increases of about 100 per cent, the continued existence of generally balanced local labour markets is an indication of the favourable employment conditions in those areas. Similarly, a rise of 85 per cent through January brought only a slight surplus to the Goderich area. An increasing manpower surplus in Cornwall, although still in the "moderate" category, resulted from additional layoffs of seamen, textile workers, chemical, metal and construction workers.

In the year-to-year comparison, job applications in eight localities were at least double the earlier level by the end of January. But in six of the eight localities the labour markets remained in approximate balance or showed only slight manpower surpluses, reflecting the very favourable overall employment situations that still obtain. These local areas are Brampton, Galt, Guelph, Ingersoll, Kitchener and Sarnia. In Chatham, reduced production schedules in automobile manufacturing and supplier plants have combined with seasonal factors to cause a moderate labour surplus this year. In point of actual numbers, the increase in Toronto, almost 100 per cent to the end of January over the same date a year ago, accounts for almost half the numerical rise for the whole region; but, relative to the wage-earner force of the local area, this has brought only a slight surplus to the locality. Employment conditions were more favourable than they had been at the end of January, 1951, in Collingwood, Fort Erie, Midland, Pembroke, Smiths Falls, Sturgeon Falls and Timmins. Greater shipbuilding activity, defence contracts and woods and mining activity are chiefly responsible for these conditions.

A continuing increase in the extent of short-time work in the region is indicated by a rise of about 800 in the number of short-time claims for unemployment insurance filed in Ontario. The January 31 total of 19,400 is almost 17,500 above the total a year earlier; and the increase through January was contrary to the usual pattern and to the all-Canada change in the period.

PRAIRIE A seasonal lull prevailed over most of the region during January. Activities in agriculture, vegetable processing, construction and transportation reached the customary low point, and unemployment rose evenly over most of the region. The increase, however, has been much smaller here than in other parts of the country. The proportion of job applications to the labour force at the beginning of February was 5 per cent, compared with the national average of 7 per cent. The main reasons for the relatively low level of unemployment are the high level of woods activity, record farm income, the continued industrial expansion in Alberta and the many defence construction projects that are now underway.

These developments are reflected in comparatively favourable local labour market situations. The ratio of job applications to the number of paid workers at February 1 indicated an approximate balance of labour demand and supply in ten of the twenty-nine local areas in the region and slight surpluses in eighteen areas. In Lethbridge, the one area in which the labour surplus was "moderate", the completion of sugar processing and a curtailment in stock feeding and construction were responsible for an additional 700 job applications at the N.E.S. office. Lay-offs in flour and feed mills in Winnipeg were counterbalanced by renewed activity in the textile and clothing trade.

Shortly after the middle of the month woods employment, which this year reached a record peak of over ten thousand in the Lakehead area, began to fall off. Because of an extensive spring and summer cutting program, the level of woods employment was maintained at about six thousand throughout the summer of 1951. It is doubtful, however, that summer cutting on a large scale will be repeated this year. Weather conditions permitted a heavy cut this winter, and there are some signs that the accelerated pulp and newsprint production of the past year has caught up with the backlog of demand. If woods employment returns to its traditional spring and summer level of two to three thousand, men will be released between mid-January and mid-April, which may create a temporary unemployment problem in the two Lakehead cities.

Storms continued through the first half of January, bringing over ten feet of snow to several areas. Logging camps, with the exception of those in the Prince Rupert-Prince George district, suspended operations almost completely. Because of the volume of snow in the forest areas of Vancouver Island, it was anticipated that logging operations on a full scale would not begin before March.

Sawmill activity was reduced by about one-third, as operators working in logging areas, and others depending on a continuous supply of logs, closed down. It is also reported that an increasing number of the small-scale, less efficient firms were finding it unprofitable to operate under present high log prices and increasing labour costs.

Construction workers formed the second largest group registered for jobs. Work on many large projects was continuing, but the weather inevitably forced a curtailment in the scale of operation. On the largest project in the region, the Kitimat power development, the number of workers has been reduced by over 1,500 since fall, and it probably will be late spring before employment is up to its former level. Expansion of employment at the new pulp mills at Nanaimo and Duncan Bay, on which over 1,000 men presently are engaged, also will wait for spring.

At the beginning of February, the number of job applications in the region had risen to 57,500, an increase of 12,200 during the month; and as loggers and construction workers moved to the cities labour surpluses spread. Of the eighteen labour market areas, there were substantial

manpower surpluses in nine, moderate surpluses in five, and slight surpluses in four. In no area was the demand for labour sufficient at present to strike an approximate balance with the supply. At the beginning of the year there were still two local areas in this category.

The impact of the weather was greatest in Vancouver Island, and substantial labour surpluses existed in all areas but Victoria. As many as one-third of the estimated number of paid workers in certain areas were registered with the N.E.S. At Nanaimo, the final closing down of the South Wellington mine caused the release of 150 workers, many of whom are unwilling to move to mining jobs in other areas. On the mainland, the progressive closing of fruit and vegetable processing plants, together with the reduction of logging and lumbering, created substantial manpower surpluses at Chilliwack, Kelowna, New Westminster and Nelson. In many of these areas the higher year-to-year level of job applications, from women especially, can be traced to the effects of the drought last summer on the general level of business. In Vancouver, 1,500 shingle mill workers, over 3,000 construction workers and 1,500 loggers formed the major portion of the substantial labour surplus.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

FEBRUARY 1, 1952

Superimposed upon the unusual rise in unemployment that has been occasioned by staff cuts in many sectors of manufacturing over the past several months, the usual volume of seasonal unemployment has created a great many local manpower surpluses and has left very few noteworthy occupational shortages. The following table shows the changing shortage-surplus picture:

	<u>Feb. 1/52</u>	<u>Jan. 1/52</u>	<u>Dec. 1/52</u>	<u>Oct. 1/52</u>
Number of areas with occupational shortages.	25	39	48	73
Number of occupations with local shortages...	9	10	19	23
Number of areas with occupational surpluses.	162	153	112	44
Number of occupations with local surpluses...	40	36	29	25

Shortages of loggers and bushmen dropped markedly, appearing in about half as many localities as at January 1. As full-scale woods operations were resumed after Christmas vacations, eastern Canadian camps soon became fully staffed and only about one-third the number of jobs available at January 1 were still vacant at the end of the month. Ten of the 15 areas in which demand for woods workers remained relatively strong were in the Quebec region, and over 85 per cent of the bush jobs remaining open at February 1 were situated in those ten areas.

Surpluses of loggers and bushmen, on the other hand, became more extensive, larger numbers being available in 28 localities (16 of them in British Columbia) at the end of the period as against 17 localities (12 in B.C.) at the beginning of the month.

Shortages of specially-qualified metal workers—skilled machinists, toolmakers, die setters, machine operators, structural iron and steel workers, welders and flame cutters—persisted in Sorel and Weston, arose again in Hamilton, Windsor and Levis, largely due to expanding defence production activity. Surpluses of machinists, toolmakers and die setters grew during January in Montreal, Guelph and Victoria; of sheet metal workers, in Guelph, Toronto and Vancouver. There heavier surpluses of foundry workers in Montreal, Oshawa and Toronto, but the resumption of work at a major establishment in St. Catharines that had been forced to close temporarily, cut the surplus of foundry workers there from 180 to 30. Structural iron and steel workers remained surplus in New Glasgow and Levis, although in much smaller numbers, at the end of January; but a substantial surplus grew up in Montreal. Surpluses

of welders and flame cutters were reduced sharply in New Glasgow, Sorel, Chatham, Hamilton and Windsor, but increased in size in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

Shortages of coal miners, although somewhat less acute, persisted in western coal areas; while surpluses grew in some coal mining areas of Nova Scotia, but declined in others. For what is likely to be a very short period, a small surplus of experienced miners appeared in the Kirkland Lake area at the end of January.

A shortage of plumbers and steamfitters in Levis appeared during January, while surpluses were increasing in Montreal, Quebec, Sherbrooke and Toronto. The surplus in Vancouver held steady over the month.

A number of diesel mechanics' positions were among the job vacancies for auto mechanics and repairmen in Matane. There were surpluses of these skills at the end of January in Moncton, Yorkton and Vancouver.

Highly seasonal occupations became surplus in much larger numbers during January. There was a 50 per cent increase in the number of areas showing surpluses of seamen, and the size of many of these surpluses was considerably greater than at the beginning of the month. Food and tobacco products workers also showed larger surpluses in more localities. Large surpluses of sawmill and planing mill workers in Pacific region areas, and smaller surpluses in localities in the Atlantic, Quebec and Ontario regions were seasonal in nature; but the seasonal factor was secondary to slack market conditions in the furniture industry as a cause of more extensive surpluses of cabinet makers and woodworkers. These surpluses occurred very largely in Quebec and Ontario.

In the construction trades, surpluses became much heavier and more numerous during January. Carpenters were surplus in 26 out of 27 Atlantic region areas, in 40 out of 43 local areas in the Quebec region, in 48 out of 61 in Ontario, 19 out of 29 in the Prairies and 16 out of 18 in the Pacific—a total of 149 out of 178 areas across Canada, as against 106 at January 1. Painters, too, became surplus in greater numbers and in more localities. And unskilled workers, both with construction experience and with other work backgrounds, were available for employment in increasing numbers across the country. Due to the general surpluses of carpenters, painters and unskilled workers, detail of the surpluses has been omitted from the accompanying table.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES — MALE

February 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>					
Campbellton....	120	14	Matane.....	280	3
St. Stephen....	50	2	Rimouski.....	547	4
Causapscal....	81	4	St. Georges		
Chandler(1)....	204	132	de Beauce.....	197	4
Chicoutimi....	196	3	Val d'Or.....	57	11
Dolbeau(2)....	595	2	Kirkland Lake...	64	10
Joliette.....	56	4	The Pas.....	55	2
La Tuque.....	496	8	Edson.....	61	2

Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters

Sorel.....	105	12	Weston.....	98	4
Hamilton.....	80	34			

Machine Shop Workers

Hamilton.....	175	96
---------------	-----	----

Structural Iron and Steel Workers

Windsor.....	48	7
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Welders & Flame Cutters

Levis.....	119	6
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Miners

Blairmore.....	66	3	Courtenay.....	49	1
Lethbridge.....	80	8			

Plumbers & Steamfitters

Levis.....	70	10
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Routemen

Ottawa.....	45	4
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- (1) Includes Gaspe and New Richmond in these tables.
- (2) Includes Roberval in these tables.

Local Occupational Surpluses--Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Seamen (cont'd)</u>					
Yarmouth.....	29	-	Ste. Anne de		
Moncton.....	82	-	Bellevue.....	45	-
Gaspé.....	25	-	Sorel.....	260	-
La Malbaie.....	246	-	Three Rivers...	184	-
Levis.....	153	-	Collingwood....	134	-
Montmagny.....	63	-	Cornwall.....	108	-
Montreal.....	596	-	Midland.....	290	-
Quebec.....	206	1	Owen Sound.....	356	-
Rimouski.....	55	1	Parry Sound....	28	-
Riviere du Loup.	21	-	Prescott.....	30	-
			Sudbury.....	83	-
			Vancouver.....	363	5

Primary Textile Workers

Drummondville...	51	-	Three Rivers...	57	-
Granby.....	151	-	Valleyfield....	51	-
Montmagny.....	41	-	Victoriaville..	32	-
Montreal.....	163	1	Carleton Place.	86	-
St. Georges de			Cornwall.....	30	-
Beauce.....	97	-	Galt.....	38	-
St. Hyacinthe...	65	5	Guelph.....	39	-
St. Jean.....	39	2	Peterborough...	25	-
Shawinigan Falls	32	-	Toronto.....	161	1
Sherbrooke.....	140	-			

Secondary Textile Workers

Montreal.....	244	14	Toronto.....	945	27
Guelph.....	35	-	Winnipeg.....	137	32

Loggers & Bushmen

Corner Brook....	76	-	La Malbaie.....	99	18
Grand Falls.....	36	4	Riviere du Loup	35	4
St. John's.....	334	-	Pembroke.....	48	-
Bridgewater.....	30	-	Port Arthur....	169	42
Inverness.....	32	-	Chilliwack.....	508	-
Truro.....	36	9	Courtenay.....	290	-
Bathurst.....	118	-	Duncan.....	347	-
Edmundston.....	25	-	Kamloops.....	55	3

Local Occupational Surpluses—Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Loggers & Bushmen (Cont'd)</u>					
Kelowna.....	41	-	Prince George.....	64	8
Nanaimo.....	454	1	Prince Rupert.....	89	-
Nelson.....	136	-	Trail.....	33	-
New Westminster..	586	-	Vancouver.....	1,536	-
Penticton.....	31	-	Vernon.....	116	6
Port Alberni....	143	-	Victoria.....	71	-

Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers

New Glasgow.....	39	-	Cranbrook.....	27	-
Springhill.....	26	-	Duncan.....	40	-
Truro.....	27	-	Kamloops.....	56	2
Yarmouth.....	28	-	Nanaimo.....	68	-
Causapscal.....	43	3	Nelson.....	50	-
Riviere du Loup..	37	-	New Westminster...	223	1
St. Georges de			Prince George.....	39	10
Beauce.....	26	-	Trail.....	114	-
Guelph.....	27	-	Vancouver.....	407	-
North Bay.....	33	-	Vernon.....	60	-
Chilliwack.....	73	-			
Courtenay.....	47	-			

Cabinet Makers & Woodworkers

Granby.....	43	-	Kitchener.....	130	-
Levis.....	27	-	Owen Sound.....	50	-
Montreal.....	143	-	Stratford.....	37	-
St. Hyacinthe...	31	-	Toronto.....	213	2
St. Jerome.....	38	2	New Westminster...	78	-
Victoriaville...	38	1	Vancouver.....	108	-
Kirkland Lake...	39	-			

Boot & Shoe Workers

Montreal.....	238	16	Shawinigan Falls..	46	-
Quebec.....	336	1			

Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters

Montreal.....	148	41	Vancouver.....	172	31
Guelph.....	75	-	Victoria.....	54	-

Local Occupational Surpluses—Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Sheet Metal Workers</u>					
Guelph.....	25	-	Vancouver.....	126	1
Toronto.....	112	2			
<u>Foundry Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	130	3	St. Catharines..	30	1
Oshawa.....	104	-	Toronto.....	153	-
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
New Glasgow....	30	-	Montreal.....	131	4
Levis.....	35	-			
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Montreal.....	144	10	Vancouver.....	177	1
Toronto.....	189	24			
<u>Electricians</u>					
Montreal.....	192	1	Vancouver.....	137	-
Toronto.....	137	1			
<u>Automobile Workers</u>					
Oshawa.....	167	-	Windsor.....	173	-
<u>Miners</u>					
Inverness.....	45	-	Kirkland Lake...	31	6
New Glasgow....	73	-			
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>					
Drummondville..	31	-	Shawinigan Falls	28	-
Montreal.....	274	5	Three Rivers....	57	-
Quebec.....	198	2	Toronto.....	573	-
<u>Plasterers</u>					
Montreal.....	214	-	Vancouver.....	135	-
Toronto.....	179	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses—Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Plumbers & Steamfitters</u>					
Montreal.....	353	2	Toronto.....	116	-
Quebec.....	84	1	Vancouver.....	128	-
Sherbrooke.....	28	-			
<u>Stationary Engineers & Firemen</u>					
Courtenay.....	59	-	Port Alberni....	31	-
New Westminster.	113	-	Vancouver.....	284	3
<u>Cranemen & Shovelmen</u>					
Chilliwack.....	88	-	Nanaimo.....	92	-
Courtenay.....	34	-	Vancouver.....	241	1
Kamloops.....	82	-			
<u>Millwrights</u>					
Shawinigan Falls	43	-			
<u>Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen</u>					
Moncton.....	58	1	Vancouver.....	153	21
Yorkton.....	35	8			

The foregoing table lists the areas in which there were, at February 1, 1952, excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations. The basis on which the table was built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is	The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was
over 100,000	100 or more
50,000 to 100,000	75 or more
25,000 to 50,000	50 or more
under 25,000	25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service Offices. Clerical and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e.g. foremen, apprentices, other unskilled workers).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS

(Preliminary Data)

Items	1952		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previ- ous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
Manpower					
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.	Jan. 31	362,825	+ 36.1	+ 20.9	-
Per cent of labour force.....	Jan. 31	7.0	5.1x	-	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	Jan. 31	9.5	7.0x	-	-
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C. (1)...	Feb. 1	318,537	+ 28.9	+ 28.6	+ 29.2
Per cent of insured population....	Feb. 1	11.0	8.6x	8.8x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Feb. 1	87.8	92.7x	82.5x	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$000) (2)	January	13,977	+101.9	+ 42.2	-
Index of employment (1939=100).....	Dec.1/51	186.4	0.0	+ 4.0	+ 7.2
Immigration.....	Dec.1/51	19,676	- 11.5	+178.7	+163.0
Earnings and Income					
Total labour income (\$000,000).....	November	857	+ 0.2	+ 15.2	+ 16.9
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	Dec.1/51	\$52.34	+ 0.6	+ 12.2	+ 10.6
Average hourly wages (mfg.).....	Dec.1/51	\$ 1.25	+ 0.8	+ 15.5	+ 12.8
Average hours worked per week (mfg.)	Dec.1/51	41.9	+ 0.2	- 2.8	- 1.0
Average weekly wages (mfg.).....	Dec.1/51	\$52.17	+ 1.1	+ 12.3	+ 11.5
Cost-of-living index (Av.1935-39=100)	Jan. 1	191.5	+ 0.2	+ 11.0	-
Real weekly earnings (mfg.av.1946=100)	Dec.1/51	113.0	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.6
Industrial Production					
Total (Average 1935-39=100).....	Dec.1/51	204.1	- 1.8	- 2.4	+ 7.1
Manufacturing Index.....	Dec.1/51	209.6	- 2.1	- 4.6	+ 5.9
Durables.....	Dec.1/51	252.8	- 1.5	- 3.9	+ 9.9
Non-durables.....	Dec.1/51	184.4	- 2.5	- 5.1	+ 2.9
Industrial Relations					
Strikes and lockouts - days lost....	January	75,220	- 35.7	+348.7	-

(x) These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

(1) Includes ordinary live claimants plus claimants for Supplementary Benefit. The latter totalled 30,726 at February 1, 1952.

(2) Including \$544,000 in Supplementary Benefit payments.

C A N A D I A N

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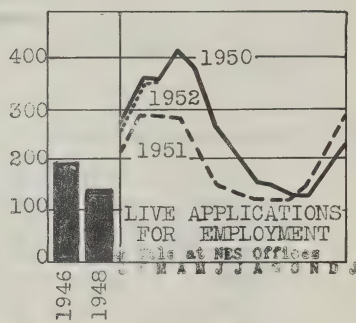
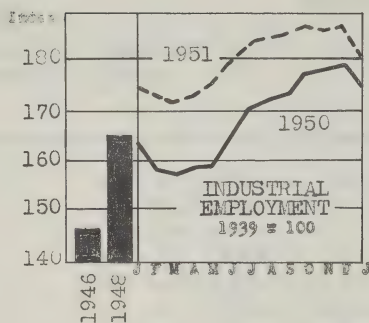
Arthur MacNamara, C.M.G.,
L.L.D., Deputy Minister

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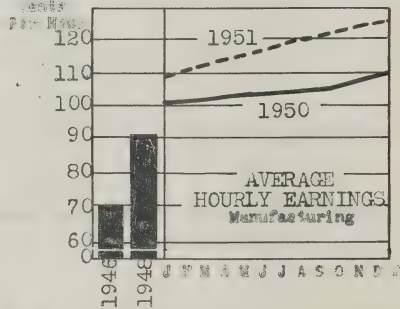
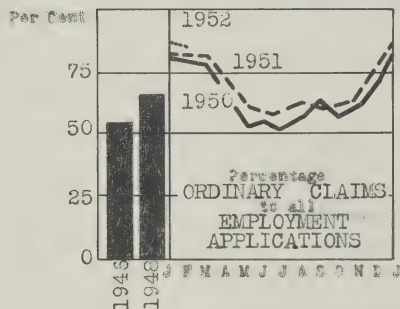
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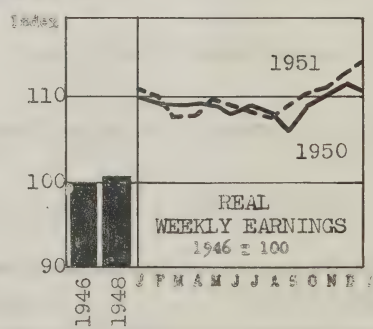
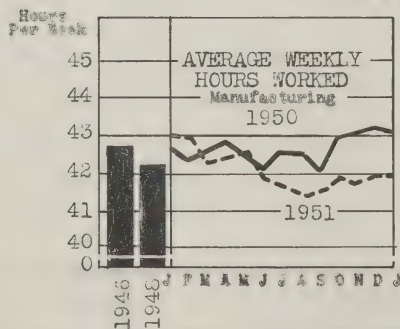
LABOUR



MARKET



TRENDS



CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

Little change occurred in labour demand and supply conditions across Canada during February and early March. This was somewhat unusual, inasmuch as hiring ordinarily starts to pick up after the first or second week of February and unemployment begins to decline. This year, unemployment, although at a plateau, has been edging slowly upward in the four weeks subsequent to February 7.

At March 13, 1952, workers registered with the National Employment Service totalled 377,700, a gain of about 10,000 since February 7 and of 81,900 as compared with a year ago. Last year these figures reached a peak of 303,700 on February 8 and by March 14 had dropped by 8,200. This difference in trend is explained by conditions in Ontario and Quebec. Last year workers registered with the National Employment Service in Ontario reached a peak of 68,300 on February 1 and dropped by almost 10,000 by March 15; this year, Ontario figures totalled 111,600 by March 13, a rise of 4,400 since February 7. In Quebec, these figures did not reach their peak of 95,600 last year until March 29; this year they totalled 22,400 at March 13, a rise of 16,300 since February 7.

With labour demand remaining low in all regions except British Columbia, the continued release of workers from the logging industry has been the main factor in the increase in unemployment during recent weeks. The number of loggers employed by pulp and paper companies in eastern Canada declined at a rate of about 7,000 per week during February. This was reflected in a sharp rise in unemployment in logging centres such as Quebec City, Riviere du Loup and Rimouski.

This year, there has not yet been any improvement in employment conditions in the industrial areas of the East to offset the seasonal decrease in logging employment. The reduced employment levels in the manufacturing cities of Quebec and Ontario continue to be mainly responsible for the increase in unemployment over 1951. There was little change, or at best slight improvement, in most centres in the first two weeks of March. In the Prairie region, the lay-off of about 1,000 packing-house workers during late February and early March due to the outbreak of hoof and mouth disease has increased unemployment levels.

The main increases in unemployment over the past year have occurred among unskilled workers. At March 1, 1952, there was 285,500 male workers registered with N.E.S. offices, an increase of 53,100 over the figure a year earlier. Unskilled workers accounted for 23,900 of this increase while skilled and semi-skilled construction workers accounted

for another 9,500. Other occupational groups showing an increase over the year were loggers (2,500), metal workers (2,200), truck drivers (1,900), textile workers (2,000). The increase in unemployment over the year has been general throughout all construction trades.

One of the important labour market developments of recent months has been the drop in employment in textile firms. In the primary textile industry, as a whole, the backing up of inventories as a result of slackening consumer demand for textile products has brought about a reduction of over 10 per cent in total employment between April and December, 1951. Production has been reduced by almost 20 per cent. At the beginning of May, wage-earners in primary textiles averaged a working week of 43.7 hours. By August 1, this had dropped to 39.2 hours and by December 1, a slight but not general increase had brought the average to 40.8 hours.

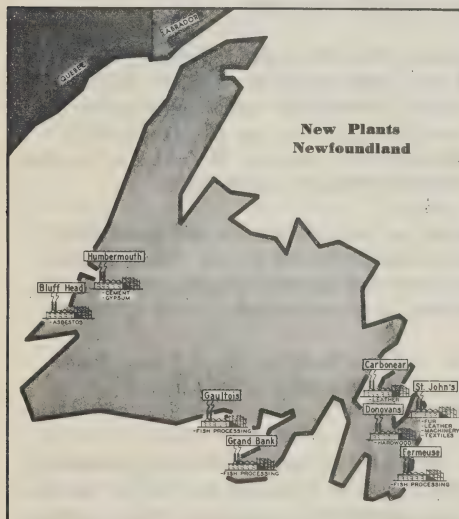
Despite the current extensive unemployment amongst construction workers, the numerous large industrial and engineering construction projects planned for 1952 will raise problems of labour shortages in several areas across the country during the summer months. On the Atlantic Coast, for instance, work on U.S. military installations already has begun and skilled plumbers and electricians are being sought throughout the Atlantic region. In the Edmonton area and in northern British Columbia, several thousand construction workers will be required in the next few months. On the other hand, construction workers may not be fully employed in many of the industrial areas of central Canada due mainly to the sharp reduction in house building. It will, no doubt, be very difficult for many of these workers to move to areas where large resource development projects are underway.

The recent softening in labour demand has not yet had any general effect on wage rates. During the last two months of 1951, increases in hourly wage rates in collective agreements received by the Department of Labour showed that gains of 15 cents an hour or more were the most predominant. This trend has continued into 1952, although it is a little too early for a detailed pattern to have been established. The number of collective agreements being signed by employers and unions is usually at its lowest level in the first quarter of each year. On the basis of agreements signed so far this year, and of which the Department of Labour has a record, wage rate increases of 15 cents an hour or more are quite general. In addition, wage demands currently being made by building trades unions are well in excess of fifteen cents an hour.

EMPLOYMENT EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN NEWFOUNDLAND

The current industrial development program in Newfoundland will create an estimated 3,000 new jobs. About half this number have been or are currently being hired, and the remainder are expected to be taken on in the next eighteen months.

With the encouragement of the provincial government, a much larger and more diversified manufacturing industry is in the process of being established. The scope of this program includes modernization of the fishing and fish processing industry; establishment of cement, wall-board, birch veneer, leather textiles and machinery plants.



Traditionally, Newfoundland's economy has been based on three primary industries, fishing, forestry and mining. These basic commodities are largely exported, whereas most foods and consumer goods are imported from Canada and the United States. Because of soil conditions, agriculture is not a major industry. Thus the whole economy has been closely tied in with world market conditions.

The new industrialization program of the provincial government is largely designed to accomplish three things. First, to introduce a higher degree of processing of raw materials; second, to cut down on seasonality of employment; and finally, to gradually reduce dependence on imports.

The major fishing industry is being put on a much sounder and more competitive basis, with the introduction of modern fishing, freezing and fresh filleting methods. This has opened up a good market in the United States for fresh fish products, offsetting the drop in European salt fish markets caused by exchange difficulties.

In this connection, the Northeastern Fish Industries, Ltd. completed a large new fresh fish processing plant at Fermeuse, Newfoundland, that provides employment on two shifts for 250 workers. Four to five modern trawlers fish into this plant, and the plant also helps many in-shore fishermen who sell their fish direct to the plant, thus relieving them of their dependence on the salt cod industry. Northlantic Fisheries Inc. is building a modern fish filleting plant near Grand Bank that will

employ, at peak, 300 workers in and around the plant. Two draggers will operate into the plant, which also will provide a ready market for in-shore fishermen.

In the non-metallic mineral products industry, a new cement plant at Humbermouth started operation late in 1951 and will employ 200 men by spring. A new gypsum plant, also at Humbermouth, is really two plants in one and is now starting operations, producing gypsum plaster and wallboard. The eventual peak crew is placed at 320 men.

The Newfoundland Hardwoods Ltd. plant at Donovans recently was completed at a cost of about \$500,000 and will employ 250 workers in addition to providing employment for many woods workers.

A new tannery, to be operated by Newfoundland Tanneries Ltd., is under construction and will employ 100 men early in 1952. Another leather firm, Canadian Leather Goods Ltd., recently commenced operations with about 80 workers. Plans for a new fur processing plant at St. John's are well advanced, and the industry will employ 50 skilled workers at the start, with the prospect of a considerable increase later.

St. John's will be the site of a large industrial machinery plant which will employ about 500 men at full production. This plant will be operated by Canadian Machinery and Industrial Construction Ltd., with production to begin in approximately a year's time.

The site for an 850-employee cotton textile mill has been cleared near St. John's. This company, the United Cotton Mills Ltd., will probably commence hirings in 1953.

At Harbour Grace, Conception Bay, a new oil hardening industry is taking over former premises of Crosbie & Co. Limited and will harden whale, seal, and herring oil, as well as imported vegetable oils, products used in the manufacture of shortening and margarine. This plant will employ 120 workers. A new fish filleting plant is under construction at Gaultois which will employ 100 workers when completed later in 1952.

Construction of a new 100-ton asbestos mill at Bluff Head, Port au Port Bay, scheduled for production in the third quarter of 1952, will begin immediately.

Besides the large amount of industrial expansion either completed or underway, there are many other projects in prospect for 1952. Thus the manufacturing industry, with its increased labour force, should create a greater degree of stability in an economy heretofore largely seasonal.

NON-SEASONAL LAY-OFFS LIGHTER, SOME RECALLS DURING FEBRUARY

There was a marked drop in the number of workers laid off in February. In the depressed consumer durable goods industries, only one firm reported a lay-off. On the other hand, several automobile manufacturers began re-hiring; the British Columbia logging industry was gradually getting underway after a not unusual mid-winter shutdown; and the Quebec clothing industry showed some improvement in employment conditions due to spring demand.

Only one lay-off of 70 workers was reported from firms producing household appliances; most firms in the industry are still overstocked, employment is at a low level, and a considerable number of workers are on short-time. It may be noted that some 5,000 lay-offs of an indefinite nature have been reported from household appliance manufacturers since June, 1951.

Many workers were re-hired by the automotive industry during February. The Ford Motor Company of Canada hired 1,200 workers, as against 3,500 lay-offs of an indefinite nature since last summer. General Motors of Canada at Oshawa recalled the 500 workers released in December. In the whole automotive industry, there were approximately 7,000 workers released for an indefinite period since April, 1951, with recalls so far totalling 1,700.

Although the textile industry as a whole is still in a depressed condition, the Quebec clothing industry, particularly in the Montreal area, showed a marked pick-up in activity as retail orders began to grow in expectation of the spring rush. This improvement in employment conditions is probably largely responsible for the drop in the number of workers on short-time claim in Quebec during February.

In the primary textile industry, Courtaulds of Canada at Cornwall, released 465 workers for an indefinite period; a cotton mill at Drummondville and a rayon mill at Three Rivers laid off 100 and 150 workers, respectively. As may be seen in the accompanying table, reported employment in the clothing and textile manufacturing industries at January 1, 1952 was down 11% in both cases, compared to a year ago.

The Canadian livestock industry was effected by the outbreak of hoof and mouth disease around Regina, which slowed down cattle deliveries to processing plants. Lay-offs from packing plants were light in February; however, early in March there were more reports of lay-offs.

By cause, the distribution of reported February lay-offs was as follows: lack of orders 78%; lack of materials 2%; and other reasons 20%.

Reported Non-Seasonal Lay-offs in Manufacturing Industries
February, 1952 (1)

	Reported Lay-offs (1) During February, 1952		Employment at January 1, 1952 (2)	
	Number of Plants	Number of Workers	Number	Change From Last Year
Iron and steel products	7	500	176,850	+ 5.1
Transportation equip...	2	70	134,850	+ 15.2
Food and beverages.....	3	200	117,000	+ 2.4
Clothing.....	2	80	85,100	- 11.9
Wood products.....	4	150	79,700	- 5.2
Paper products.....	4	150	75,900	+ 6.4
Textile products.....	11	925	67,900	- 11.4
Electrical apparatus...	6	200	61,900	- 1.4
Chemical products.....	1	70	50,600	+ 8.8
Non-metallic mineral product.....	1	25	26,300	+ 0.5
Rubber products.....	1	200	19,500	- 8.1
Tobacco products.....	1	80	10,350	- 8.0
Other (3).....	-	-	151,200	- 0.5
Total.....	43	2,650	1,057,150	+ 0.9

(1) As reported by National Employment Service offices.

(2) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D. B. S.

(3) Employment in five industries in which no non-seasonal lay-offs were reported in February, 1952.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

MARCH 1, 1952

LABOUR MARKET GROUPINGS ¹	Number of Areas					
	CANADA	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	PRAIRIES	PACIFIC
1. Substantial Labour Surplus	36	8	14	6	-	8
2. Moderate Labour Surplus	47	8	16	16	2	5
3. Slight Labour Surplus	81	11	13	33	19	5
4. Balanced Labour Market	14	-	-	6	8	-
5. Marked Labour Shortages	-	-	-	-	-	-
Per cent job applications to wage and salary workers	9.5	11.8	10.	7.9	8.2	13.9

¹For definition of groupings, see key to map chart on following page.

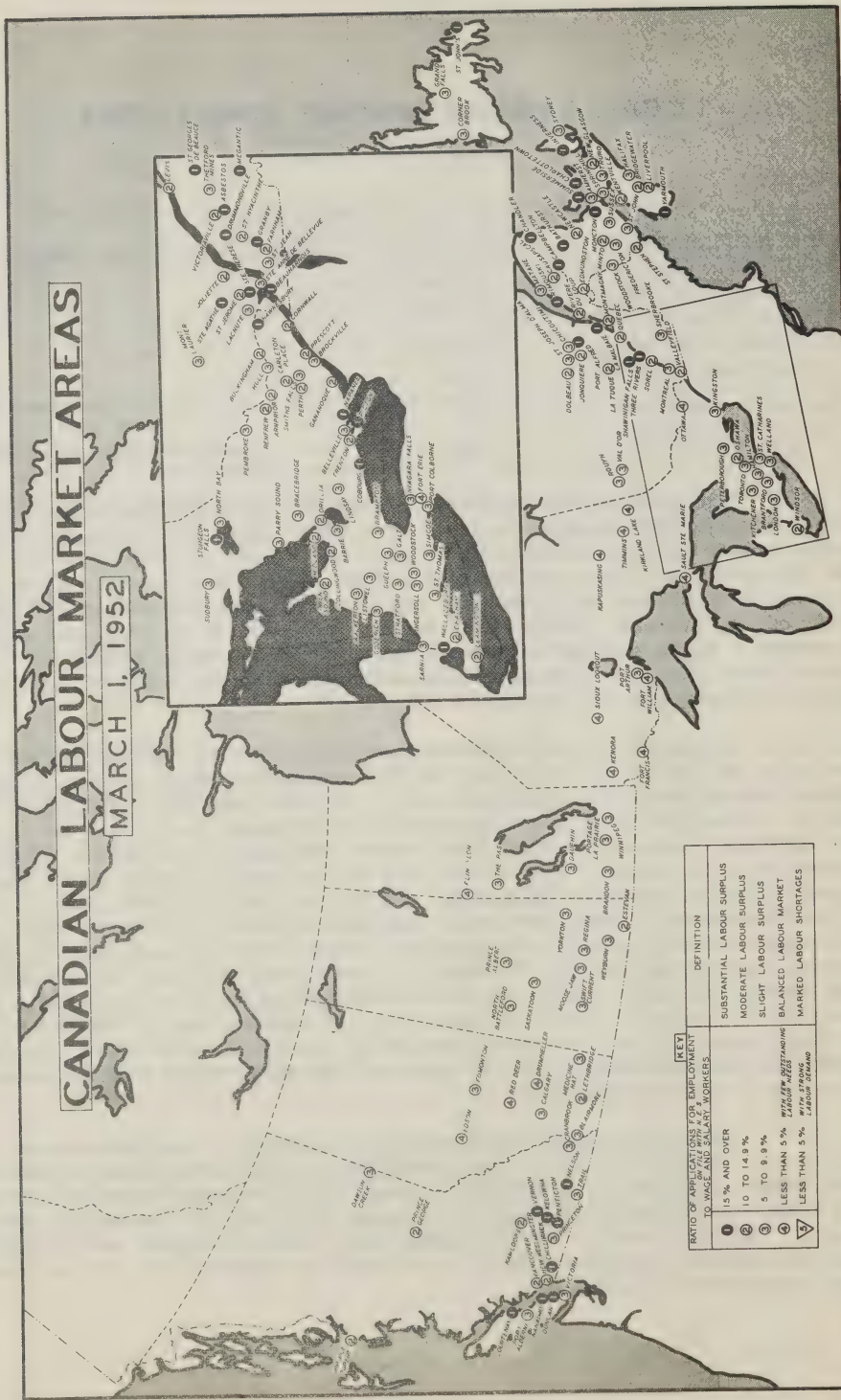
The gradual tapering off of seasonal rises in unemployment during February, with weekly increases of 4,900, 1,000, 800 and 1,400, brought total active job applications filed with the N.E.S. to 371,000 at the end of February, up 8,100 over the month. This is in sharp contrast to an increase of 72,600 during January. The current total represents 7.1 per cent of the civilian labour force and 9.5 per cent of all wage and salary workers. These aggregates conceal declines in job applications at the local level that were becoming more numerous, although still of relatively slight proportions, by the end of February.

At March 1, there were manpower surpluses of varying degrees of severity in 164 (92 per cent) of the 178 designated local labour market areas, as against 157 a month earlier. Of these surplus localities, a larger proportion showed "substantial" surpluses and "moderate" surpluses. The heaviest concentration of local areas continued to be in the "slight" labour surplus category for Canada as a whole, but in Quebec there was an equal number of moderate surpluses, and in the Pacific those localities with "substantial" surpluses still outnumbered those in other categories, although February brought more apparent improvement to conditions in that region than in any other. By March 1, local areas in which labour demand and supply remained roughly in balance were found only in the Ontario and Prairie regions, and then in slightly smaller numbers than a month earlier. In the latter region, the deterioration of employment conditions during February was very slight, and it remained the only region with no substantial local manpower surpluses.

During the month there were some signs of an improvement in the short-time conditions that have prevailed in many localities in Quebec and Ontario. Claims for short-time unemployment insurance benefit dropped more than 5,000 during February to a total of 34,400 at the end of the month. Of this total, 30,000 claims were filed in Quebec and Ontario. For the second consecutive month, the total for Ontario (16,500) exceeded that for Quebec (13,500).

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

MARCH 1, 1952



KEY	
RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT TO WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS	
	DEFINITION
1	SUBSTANTIAL LABOUR SURPLUS
2	MODERATE LABOUR SURPLUS
3	SLIGHT LABOUR SURPLUS
4	BALANCED LABOUR MARKET
5	MARKED LABOUR SHORTAGE

In the Atlantic region, the employment picture during February portrayed two distinct features. On the one hand, **ATLANTIC** local areas sensitive to seasonal influences experienced an appreciable slump in employment; while on the other hand, the more industrialized areas were favoured with increased job opportunities. During the month, primary industries accounted for the greater proportion of workers released. At the same time there were favourable employment developments in some manufacturing lines. Extensive shipbuilding and dockwork was maintained and defence contracts continued to keep the boot and shoe industry active. Textiles, however were still depressed and extensive short time persisted.

Although job applications continued to climb through the month, unemployment appears to have reached its seasonal peak. Registrations with the National Employment Service totalled 46,800, an increase of 10 per cent over the previous month but the least pronounced month-to-month increase since November. While unusually heavy snow paralyzed cutting operations in the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick woods, a large number of men were provided with temporary work during the month. In three of the larger areas, Halifax, Moncton and Sydney, 3,000 men were given jobs snowshovelling.

The most significant increase in unemployment occurred in northern New Brunswick, as indicated by the sharp rise in job applications in the Bathurst, Campbellton, Edmundston and Newcastle local areas. Chief causes of receding employment in these areas were lay-offs in pulp cutting and lumbering, and the closure of smelt fishing. Bathurst, a "substantial" surplus area at the beginning of the month, showed further deterioration during February, while Campbellton, moving out of the "moderate" surplus grouping, appeared as a critical area for the first time this winter. Newcastle and Edmundston, formerly "slight" surplus areas, reacted to these developments by shifting to the "moderate" surplus category.

Although substantial labour surpluses persisted in the St. John's, Charlottetown, Summerside, Inverness, Yarmouth and Moncton local areas, employment opportunities were relatively unchanged from one month ago. In St. John's, the predominant surplus occupations were construction workers, seamen and loggers; while in Prince Edward Island, surpluses were mainly the result of seasonal inactivity in agriculture. Yarmouth, the most severely affected area in Nova Scotia during the month, experienced further slackening in fishing which, together with logging and construction declines, swelled the supply of labour. Short term lay-offs in coal mining occurred in Inverness, but over-all employment was at the same level as a month earlier. Food processing and construction workers were still plentiful in the Moncton area.

Increased activity in Halifax shipyards provided additional employment and caused some concern over the shortage of certain skills. While N.E.S. orders in clearance to the United Kingdom helped to ease

the shortage of welders and lathe hands, there is still an urgent need for class "A" welders, lathe hands, machinists, marine fitters and sheet metal workers, and a critical need for marine pipefitters. Also, skilled tradesmen such as radio and radar technicians are needed.

QUEBEC Quebec experienced the largest increase in job applications of any region in Canada during February. At February 28, 1952 the number of active job applications had risen 10,000 to 114,600, while at March 1, 1951 the number stood at 92,500. At February 28, there were 7,800 unfilled job vacancies in N.E.S. files as compared with 13,800 at about the same date last year. While in no sense an accurate measure of labour demand, these data do reflect current trends in the demand for workers.

The upsurge of job applications was due, in the main, to reduced activity in wood cutting. The large logging crews employed this year will mean a somewhat greater than usual rise in unemployment as the cutting season wanes. The decline in woods activity was caused by the completion of the scheduled cut in many localities, and by weather conditions that made loggers reluctant to stay in, or return to the forest. Heavy snowfalls were quite a serious deterrent to loggers, particularly in the lower St. Lawrence south shore region, where heavy registrations for work were expected. The deep snow also hampered log hauling, and sawmill operations were thus reduced. In the Val d'Or area, the winter cut is practically finished, and a spring cut is planned. Consequently, fewer registrations for work are expected. In the La Tuque and Three Rivers areas the cutting season is practically terminated and there will be no spring cut there.

The demand for miners continued low, particularly in the Abitibi district, and employers expect a heavy turnover during the spring season. Prospecting was active in the Eastern Townships, in the Chibougamau and the Abitibi districts. At Asbestos there were no indications of how many workers would be needed to adjust the work force to the change from the 48-hour week to the 40-hour week. However, there were some lay-offs in asbestos products manufacturing in that locality, owing to reduced demand for building materials. In Thetford Mines, the provision for a shorter work week in the new collective agreement created 150 new openings for asbestos workers.

Heavy industry in the region continued active. The consumer durables and semi-durables groups remained depressed. However, the upward trend in unemployment in this group appears to be tapering off. Although many firms continued on short time during the month, in Montreal, for example, the number on short time was definitely smaller. The primary textiles group did not show any noticeable over-all improvement and inventories at the secondary level remain so high that any increase in orders will not stimulate production appreciably for some time. The apparel and other finished products industry, however, showed a higher employment

level, in Montreal particularly. The footwear and leather products industries were increasing their employment following new orders, many of them defence contracts.

No change took place in tobacco products manufacturing and employers are speculating on reduced taxes on tobacco, which would revive demand. Construction continued at a low ebb and this industry contributed a significant proportion of the workers registered for work. Employment in the pulp and paper and shipbuilding industries remains high.

At the end of February, 14 centres had "substantial" labour surpluses, 16 were in the "moderate" class and 13 had "slight" labour surpluses. Over the month, only two localities, Beauharnois and Sorel, showed declining levels of unemployment. Chief causes of improvement in the former area was the resumption of normal activity in the production of metallic alloys and in leather products establishments. In the latter, sustained activity and demand for skilled workers in munitions manufacturing, shipbuilding and titanium smelting and refining have been the principal supports of the local labour market. However, sixteen centres experienced slight reductions in unemployment over the last half of the month, while the remaining 27 designated local areas had somewhat more unemployment.

ONTARIO Winter unemployment in the Ontario region was stabilized during February at a level some 75 per cent above that of February, 1951. The weekly rate of increase in active job applications dropped sharply through the first three weeks of the month, and the total declined slightly over the last week. At the beginning of March, the total of job applications stood at 111,800, only 300 above the total at the beginning of the month.

This apparent hiatus between the rise and the fall in unemployment arose from a variety of movements and counter-movements in unemployment at the local level. There were manpower surpluses in 55 Ontario region localities at March 1, as against 53 at the beginning of February. But unemployment rose in only half of the region's local areas, remaining virtually stable in 11 and declining in 19. Those areas in which the level of job applications were roughly unchanged or lower at March 1 included Brantford, Chatham, Galt, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener, Leamington, London, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Welland and Windsor—all localities in which this winter's unusually high level of unemployment has been due chiefly to weaknesses in consumer goods markets and production.

The conflicting employment tendencies that produced the relatively stable level of job applications showed up most clearly in logging and some sectors of manufacturing, both producer and consumer. As the emphasis in woods work shifted from cutting to hauling, loggers from many northern Ontario localities left the bush and registered with the N.E.S.

although cutting will continue in some areas until the spring break-up. On the other hand, there were scattered signs of improving employment conditions and outlook in various manufacturing industries that usually produce for consumer markets, and in some capital goods industries. Recalls and hirings, or the almost immediate prospect of hirings, showed up in automobile, clothing, electrical apparatus, iron and steel and machinery plants, as orders for their usual products stepped up and defence contracts added some impetus to the revival.

During February, Napanee and Sturgeon Falls joined Cobourg, Hawkesbury, Picton and Wallaceburg in the "substantial" labour surplus category. General seasonal inactivity in farming, construction and Great Lakes navigation accounts for the surplus condition in Napanee; while logging activity has tapered off in the Sturgeon Falls area, adding to the numbers of workers that are seasonally inactive. On the other hand, the employment situation in Midland picked up during the month, hirings for shipbuilding and clothing manufacturing providing most of the impetus to the downturn in unemployment, and the manpower surplus dropped from "substantial" to "moderate". With Brockville, Collingwood, Fort Erie, Goderich, Kingston, Pembroke and Sturgeon Falls, the Midland area reflects conditions more favourable than those obtaining a year earlier. In each of these localities, job applications total less than they did at March 1, 1951. The basis for this relative improvement is greater shipbuilding and repairing activity in Collingwood, Kingston and Midland, as well as some pick-up in other manufacturing; more manufacturing and construction work, much of it on defence orders, in Brockville, Fort Erie, Goderich, Pembroke, and Sturgeon Falls.

Only six localities in the Ontario region showed approximately balanced labour demand-supply situations at the beginning of March. These were Fort Erie, where defence contracts for aircraft are causing considerable expansion of a major employer's work force; Kapuskasing, Kirkland Lake, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins, where sustained woods work, mining activity, pulp, paper and mineral products output and industrial construction have kept more workers busy; and Ottawa, where there was considerable construction activity and strong demand for skilled metal workers and office workers, the latter chiefly due to the opening of parliament.

Unemployment continued to rise in the early part of February, **PRAIRIE** but levelled off during the last two weeks as renewed activity began to appear in several industries. There was a drop in the number of skilled construction workers, clothing workers and sales clerks registered with the National Employment Service. Farmers were hiring help early to harvest the remainder of last year's crop; and in anticipation of labour shortages this spring they have placed orders with the N.E.S. for a larger-than-usual number of farm workers for April 1.

Despite these signs of a seasonal upswing, labour surpluses increased slightly over the month in a number of areas. Much of the continued release of workers was the result of slackening in coal mining in

Esteven and Lethbridge and the completion of pulp cutting in Port Arthur and Fort William. Up to the middle of February woods employment in the Lakehead area had fallen by 2,000 as pulpwood quotas were filled. This decline will continue through March as the work of hauling finishes, and may be greater than last year since many firms are not planning a summer cut this year.

Apart from seasonal movements, the trend of activity in the region has been upward. One indication of this is the fact that job applications registered with the N.E.S. in this region alone have been consistently below last year's levels. The chief reasons for the strength of demand for labour are the record farm income, increasing oil exploration and production, and the high level of defence and industrial construction.

New construction has been particularly heavy in Alberta. Preliminary estimates for 1951 show that in relation to the labour force the value of new construction in Alberta exceeded that of any other province. The job opportunities created by this expenditure have been partially reflected in employment statistics. Employment gains in non-agricultural industries amounted to 6 per cent in 1951 compared with the national average of less than 2 per cent during the same period. Construction employment in the province increased by 11 per cent.

This year the amount of construction work in Alberta is expected to be substantially greater, notwithstanding the decline in house building. The demand for construction labour is expected to be particularly strong in the Edmonton area. A recent survey reveals that work valued at \$99 million is scheduled for this season in that area. About 9,000 additional workers will be required to complete this volume of work, but since not all of the projects will require their full crews at the same time this total may in practice be reduced by about 2,000. Nevertheless, a potential demand for 7,000 skilled and unskilled construction workers over and above those now employed will strain the manpower resources of the area.

Part of the labour to meet this need will be drawn from local sources, which include skilled and unskilled construction workers currently unemployed, those engaged in logging and agriculture, students, and part from labour drawn into the area from other parts of Canada and the United States. It is expected that these sources will yield a maximum of 5,500 workers. The gap of 1,500 between this number and the estimated requirements will probably have to be filled largely by immigration from overseas.

Weather conditions allowed an earlier upswing in agriculture, **PACIFIC** construction and forestry, and unemployment reached a peak during the first week in February, about a month earlier than last year. Substantial surpluses still existed in most logging centres. The number of N.E.S. job applications averaged one-fifth of all wage and salary earners in Courtenay, Duncan and Nanaimo, but logging in

these coastal areas was gradually approaching normal at some points. In the interior mainland, however, snow and frost conditions are expected to continue to hamper activity for some time.

The early decline in unemployment is an indication of the underlying demand for labour, especially loggers, miners and construction workers. A heavy potential demand for loggers exists not only as a result of the depleted stocks of saw-logs caused by the drought of last summer, but also because of the expansion of operations to additional forest areas when weather permits. It is estimated that the addition of over 3,000 loggers will be necessary to supply six new pulp and plywood plants that have been established since the beginning of last year. An equal number probably will be required for the forest industries that are now under construction or in the planning stage.

The value of investment in all types of new construction, which was up 10 per cent last year, is expected to continue at the same level during 1952. At the end of the month substantial numbers of men were being sent from Vancouver to the Kitimat hydro project south of Prince Rupert, and there was already some evidence of a shortage of heavy duty mechanics and hard rock miners. On the other hand, the publicity that has been given to the larger projects has attracted a great many workers and caused an increase in labour surpluses at some points. This was true at Prince George, headquarters of the eastern end of the Kitimat project, where snow and the lack of camp accommodation were limiting the intake of construction crews. At Kamloops an office has been established for the construction of a section of the Edmonton-Burnaby pipeline, but little actual hiring has been done. In the Nelson and Trail areas, employment on the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. hydro expansion was slowly increasing, and initial preparations are being made for the construction of the \$65 million Celgar Development Co. forest project.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

MARCH 1, 1952

As the rise in seasonal unemployment began to taper off, signs of increasing employment activity appeared in a number of localities across Canada. Although lay-offs from some consumer goods manufacturing establishments continued, and more were predicted, there were also greater numbers of recalls and rehiring, especially in the Ontario region. While there were shortages of particular skills in still fewer local areas at the beginning of March than a month earlier, largely on account of the rapidly declining demand for woods workers, there was a somewhat larger number of occupations in which local shortages were reported. The number of surplus localities and occupations continued to rise during February.

	<u>Mar. 1/52</u>	<u>Feb. 1/52</u>	<u>Jan. 1/52</u>	<u>Oct. 1/51</u>
Number of areas with occupational shortages..	22	25	39	73
Number of occupations with local shortages....	14	9	10	23
Number of areas with occupational surpluses..	164	162	153	44
Number of occupations with local surpluses....	47	40	36	25

An indication of the advanced stage of logging activity by the end of February was the reduction from 15 to 6 in the number of localities in which loggers were in strong demand. Only in areas of the lower St. Lawrence south shore and Gaspé peninsula was there, at the end of February, any noteworthy demand for logging skills.

As a result of defence contracts, demand for skilled machinists, toolmakers and die setters stepped up in three of the five localities listed, remaining virtually unchanged over the month in Sorel and Weston. In Hamilton, where there was a pronounced excess of demand over supply in skilled metal trades at the beginning of February, there is no statistical basis for reporting the existence of a shortage at March 1. However, strong demand still existed at that date, but the one employer involved has been unable to handle N.E.S. referrals, due to the volume of job seekers presenting themselves at the firm's employment office. At least for the time being, the volume of surplus manpower available in this and other areas makes it unlikely that N.E.S. data will reflect as much of the demand side of the labour market as when manpower supplies are tighter. The Hamilton firm in question has cancelled its order for more than 200 skilled metalworkers until it has screened all those applying at the plant.

Contrary to the situation in most of the major primary textile centres, employment in that industry has been rising slowly in and around Welland, where there was a scarcity of unskilled textile workers at March 1. This may be due, in part, to the relatively lower wages offered by the industry. On the other hand surpluses of textile workers, both skilled and unskilled, increased in number and in size in both the Quebec and Ontario regions.

The demand for unskilled mine workers increased during February in Sudbury, aggravating the shortage there; while surpluses eased off in some coal mining areas of the Maritimes, and in Whitehorse. Unskilled construction workers for railway and other types of construction were in strong demand in Fort Frances and Flin Flon, an indication of the approach of the seasonal upturn in outdoor construction activity. The excess of demand over supply in the transportation, communication and public utility group in Moncton reflects only the momentary need of the railway for snow shovelling gangs.

In most occupational categories, local surpluses remained pretty well the same at March 1 as they were at Feb. 1, particularly where seasonal factors are influential. In addition to boot and shoe workers, other types of leather products workers became surplus in Montreal and Quebec during the month. Machine shop workers were more numerous among job seekers in several Ontario centres, while the surplus of structural iron and steel workers in New Glasgow rose substantially.

The recall of auto workers to their jobs reduced surpluses of these skills in Oshawa and Windsor. In construction skills on the other hand, the seasonal nadir of activity brought increased surpluses in most categories.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES -- MALE

March 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Toronto.....	153	67			
<u>Fishery & Forestry Workers (excl. Loggers)</u>					
Halifax.....	80	18	Duncan.....	27	1
Courtenay.....	45	6			

Local Occupational Shortages — Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>					
Causapscal.....	72	12	Rimouski.....	295	7
Matane.....	185	21	St. Georges de		
Chandler (1)....	464	278	Beauce.....	116	25
			Edson.....	50	2
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Halifax.....	31	12	Ottawa.....	52	9
Hull.....	50	6	Weston.....	100	7
Sorel.....	105	10			
<u>Machine Shop Workers</u>					
Weston.....	62	15			
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Halifax.....	28	10	Levis.....	113	6
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
Windsor.....	48	3			
<u>Electricians</u>					
Halifax.....	27	3	Midland.....	29	-
<u>Miners</u>					
Blairmore.....	66	1	Courtenay.....	46	1
<u>Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen</u>					
Matane.....	41	16			
UNSKILLED OCCUPATIONS IN:					
<u>Textiles (Primary & Secondary)</u>					
Welland.....	67	4			

(1) Includes Gaspé and New Richmond in these tables.

Local Occupational Shortages — Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Lumber & Lumber Products</u>					
Edson.....	83	11			
<u>Mining</u>					
Sudbury.....	115	1			
<u>Construction</u>					
Ft. Frances....	103	23	Flin Flon.....	74	3
<u>Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities</u>					
Moncton.....	356	115			

In determining the occupations and areas to be included in the foregoing table, National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers, first were examined. Where vacancies exceeded applications by fifty or more in any one occupational group, the occupation and area or areas affected were included in a preliminary listing. These data, however, tend to give a better picture of the supply side of the labour market than the demand side, for most job seekers find it to their advantage to use the facilities of the Employment Service when out of work because of the availability of unemployment insurance. There is not the same incentive for employers to list their job vacancies. Reference, therefore, is necessary to a variety of qualitative material, including reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by Local Employment Office managers. This results in refinements to the preliminary list, in the process of which some occupations and areas may be deleted and others, for which the early statistical evidence was less conclusive, may be added.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SURPLUSES — MALL
(excluding unskilled workers)

March 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
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Engineers

Montreal.....	235	79
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Draftsmen

Montreal.....	225	58
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Seamen

St. John's.....	440	2	Rimouski.....	53	-
Charlottetown...	51	-	Ste. Anne de		
Summerside.....	25	-	Bellevue.....	37	-
Bridgewater.....	49	-	Sorel.....	215	-
Halifax.....	90	2	Three Rivers...	180	-
New Glasgow.....	36	-	Collingwood....	131	-
Sydney.....	156	-	Cornwall.....	100	-
Yarmouth.....	41	-	Midland.....	273	-
Moncton.....	82	-	Owen Sound.....	356	1
La Malbaie.....	259	-	Picton.....	32	-
Levis.....	150	-	Prescott.....	25	-
Montmagny.....	62	-	Sudbury.....	70	-
Montreal.....	627	-	Vancouver.....	408	24
Quebec.....	193	15			

Primary Textile Workers

Asbestos.....	27	-	Three Rivers...	71	-
Drummondville...	69	-	Victoriaville..	74	1
Granby.....	135	-	Carleton Place.	95	-
Montreal.....	125	2	Cornwall.....	34	-
St. Georges de			Galt.....	29	1
Beauce.....	41	-	Guelph.....	34	-
St. Hyacinthe...	66	2	Peterborough...	50	-
St. Jean.....	31	-	Renfrew.....	25	-
Shawinigan Falls	35	-	Toronto.....	117	-
Sherbrooke.....	145	-	Valleyfield....	59	3

Secondary Textile Workers

Montreal.....	932	24	Toronto.....	604	27
Guelph.....	28	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses—Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>					
Corner Brook....	89	-	Sudbury.....	75	12
Grand Falls.....	87	-	Fort William...	97	28
St. John's.....	373	-	Port Arthur....	381	22
Inverness.....	39	-	Chilliwack.....	408	-
Bathurst.....	362	-	Courtenay.....	234	1
Edmundston.....	149	-	Cranbrook.....	53	-
Fredericton.....	54	1	Duncan.....	242	-
Moncton.....	103	19	Kamloops.....	49	-
Chandler.....	188	-	Kelowna.....	47	-
Levis.....	95	-	Nanaimo.....	216	-
Megantic.....	48	7	Nelson.....	125	-
Mont Laurier....	34	-	New Westminster	415	6
Montmagny.....	38	-	Penticton.....	32	-
Montreal.....	207	22	Port Alberni...	52	7
Port Alfred.....	46	-	Prince George..	69	2
Riviere du Loup.	172	4	Prince Rupert..	80	-
Ste. Agathe.....	31	-	Trail.....	42	-
Shawinigan Falls	51	-	Vancouver.....	120	1
Three Rivers....	114	-	Vernon.....	121	10

Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers

New Glasgow.....	29	-	Duncan.....	33	1
Yarmouth.....	32	-	Kamloops.....	43	-
Chandler.....	48	-	Nanaimo.....	31	-
Matane.....	32	-	Nelson.....	46	-
Riviere du Loup.	37	-	New Westminster	118	1
St. Georges de			Prince George..	46	4
Beauce.....	32	-	Trail.....	125	-
North Bay.....	46	-	Vancouver.....	369	2
Stratford.....	28	-	Vernon.....	57	1
Chilliwack.....	44	-			

Cabinet Makers & Woodworkers

Granby.....	46	-	Kirkland Lake..	28	-
Levis.....	33	-	Kitchener.....	104	-
Montreal.....	153	3	Toronto.....	234	2
St. Hyacinthe...	34	-	New Westminster	56	-
Victoriaville...	39	-	Vancouver.....	163	2
Guelph.....	36	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses—Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Boot & Shoe Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	214	18	Shawingian Falls	40	-
Quebec.....	261	3			
<u>Leather Products Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	112	5	Quebec.....	77	-
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Montreal.....	148	41	Vancouver.....	152	28
Guelph.....	75	-			
<u>Machine Shop Workers</u>					
Guelph.....	74	3	Wallaceburg....	79	8
St. Catharines	58	-	Windsor.....	121	8
Toronto.....	486	97			
<u>Sheet Metal Workers</u>					
Toronto.....	150	11	Vancouver.....	126	1
<u>Foundry Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	127	5	Oshawa.....	108	-
Guelph.....	26	-	Toronto.....	148	8
<u>Boilermakers</u>					
Levis.....	31	-			
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
New Glasgow...	115	-	Montreal.....	137	3
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
New Glasgow...	27	-	Toronto.....	199	9
Montreal.....	181	9	Vancouver.....	120	2
Chatham.....	30	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses--Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Electricians</u>					
Montreal.....	209	-	Vancouver.....	110	-
Toronto.....	138	2			
<u>Automobile Workers</u>					
Oshawa.....	138	-	Windsor.....	118	-
<u>Miners</u>					
St. John's.....	58	-	New Glasgow.....	66	-
Inverness.....	36	-	Rouyn.....	27	-
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>					
Drummondville..	38	-	Hamilton.....	110	1
Montreal.....	497	-	Sarnia.....	25	-
Quebec.....	216	1	Toronto.....	583	-
Shawinigan Falls	29	-	Windsor.....	85	-
Three Rivers...	56	-			
<u>Plasterers</u>					
Montreal.....	227	-	Toronto.....	178	-
<u>Plumbers and Steamfitters</u>					
Montreal.....	397	3	Toronto.....	168	2
Quebec.....	102	8	Vancouver.....	153	-
<u>Stationary Engineers & Firemen</u>					
Courtenay.....	31	-	Vancouver.....	260	1
New Westminster	80	1			
<u>Cranemen & Shovelmen</u>					
Grand Falls....	27	-	Nanaimo.....	26	1
Chilliwack.....	66	-	Vancouver.....	176	2
Duncan.....	57	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses—Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
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Millwrights

Shawinigan Falls 33 -

Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen

Amherst.....	25	-	Chilliwack.....	29	-
Yorkton.....	38	8	New Westminster.	52	1
Edmonton.....	98	8	Vancouver.....	122	2

The foregoing table lists the areas in which there were, at March 1, 1952, excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations. The basis on which the table was built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is	The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was
over 100,000	100 or more
50,000 to 100,000	75 or more
25,000 to 50,000	50 or more
under 25,000	25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service Offices. Clerical and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e.g. foremen, apprentices, other unskilled workers).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS
(Preliminary Data)

Item	1952		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>					
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.	Feb. 28	370,941	+ 2.2	+ 25.0	+ 23.0
Per cent of labour force.....	Feb. 28	7.1	7.0x	-	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	Feb. 28	9.8	9.5x	-	-
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C. (1)...	Feb. 1	318,537	+ 28.9	+ 28.6	+ 29.2
Per cent of insured population.....	Feb. 1	11.0	8.6x	8.8x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Feb. 1	87.8	92.7x	82.5x	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$'000) (2)	January	\$13,977	+101.9	+ 42.2	-
Index of employment (1939=100).....	January 1	180.9	- 3.1	+ 3.2	-
Immigration.....	December	19,676	- 11.5	+178.7	+163.0
<u>Earnings and Income</u>					
Total labour income (\$'000,000).....	November	857	+ 0.2	+ 15.2	+ 16.9
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	January	\$ 50.45	- 3.7	+ 11.4	-
Average hourly wages (mfg.).....	Jan. 1	\$ 1.27	+ 1.8	+ 16.3	-
Average hrs. worked per week (mfg.)..	Jan. 1	41.9	0.0	- 2.6	-
Average weekly wages (mfg.).....	Jan. 1	\$ 53.13	+ 1.8	+ 13.4	-
Cost-of-living index (Av.1935-39=100)	February	190.8	- 0.4	+ 8.9	+ 10.0
Real weekly earnings(mfg.av.1946=100)	Jan. 1	114.8	+ 1.6	+ 2.1	-
<u>Industrial Production</u>					
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	December	204.1	- 1.8	- 2.4	+ 7.1
Manufacturing.....	December	209.6	- 2.1	- 4.6	+ 5.9
Durables.....	December	252.8	- 1.5	- 3.9	+ 9.9
Non-durables.....	December	184.4	- 2.5	- 5.1	+ 2.9
<u>Industrial Relations</u>					
Strikes and lockouts - days lost....	February	47,603	- 36.7	+136.8	231.1

(x) These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

(1) Includes ordinary live claimants plus claimants for Supplementary Benefit. The latter totalled 30,726 at February 1, 1952.

(2) Including \$544,000 in Supplementary Benefit payments.

C A N A D I A N

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Department of Labour

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Minister

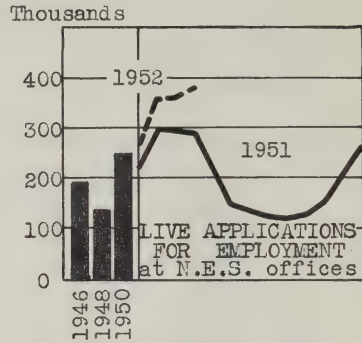
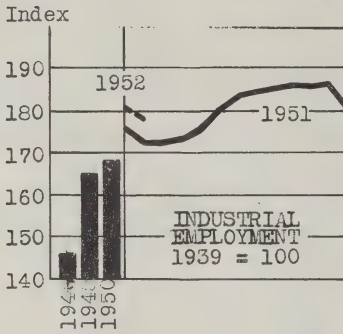
Arthur MacNamara, C.M.G.,
L.I.D., Deputy Minister

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

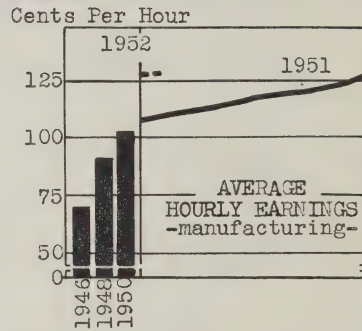
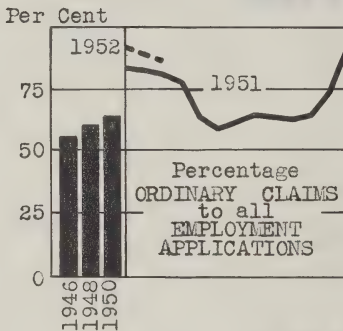
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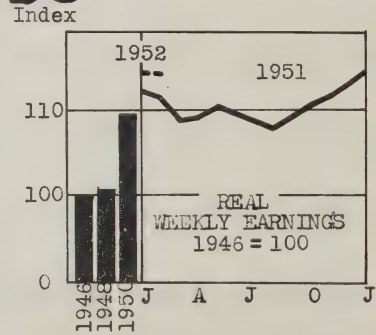
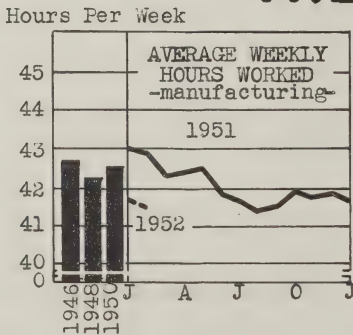
LABOUR



MARKET



TRENDS



CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

Early in April, almost two months later than in 1951 but at the same time as in 1950, unemployment in Canada began its seasonal decline. By April 17, 1952, registrations with the National Employment Service had dropped by 15,000 from their peak at April 3 to a total of 370,000. Job vacancies listed at National Employment Service offices, which have been rising slowly since early in March, totalled 35,000 at April 17, about 11,000 above the low March level.

Apart from the seasonal pick-up which is gaining momentum, there is little evidence of any basic change in the economic climate. Department store sales continue to run below last year's levels; in March, the dollar value of sales was 7 per cent below that of the same month in 1951, and more recently weekly data indicated that this situation continued into April. The change that occurred last year in consumer spending and saving patterns also seems to be continuing. Savings are at relatively high levels with spending, particularly on durables, housing and clothing, at moderate levels. In this connection, it is interesting to note the results of a survey of United States consumer plans for spending and saving in 1952, since the economic situations of Canada and the United States are closely related. The results of this survey suggest that consumers do not intend to increase sharply their purchases of durable goods or of houses in 1952 as compared with 1951. In fact, plans to purchase major household goods and automobiles in 1952 appear somewhat less frequent than they were a year ago. At present in Canada, production of these goods continues well below last year's levels.

In addition to the seasonal rise in employment which now is occurring, a selective demand for key skilled workers also is becoming stronger. This is indicated by the fact that numerous skilled workers are being sought by the National Employment Service in areas other than those where such jobs are located. This type of National Employment activity, measured by the number of job vacancies in "clearance", shows that a strong demand exists for general machinists, tool and die makers, engine and turret lathe operators, milling machine operators, precision honing and grinding workers, aircraft sheet metal workers, moulders, boilermakers, structural steel workers, shipfitters, welders, aircraft inspectors and testers, metal patternmakers, stationary engineers, millwrights, aircraft mechanics, maintenance mechanics and aircraft instrument men.

Changes in the economic activity during the past year have had a particularly important effect on labour market conditions in Ontario. At the first of April, 1952, a total of 109,700 people, 6.3 per cent of the labour force, were seeking jobs through N.E.S. offices in the Ontario region. Last year at the same date, 56,700 people, 3.3 per cent of the

labour force, were registered with the N.E.S. In the last week of March 1952, 86,000 workers were claiming regular or supplementary unemployment insurance benefits as compared with 44,600 in the same week a year ago. In addition, short-time claimants in Ontario numbered 13,700 at the end of March, 1952, as compared to only 1,700 in 1951. One year ago, there were three to four registered job seekers for each job vacancy in N.E.S. files; today, the comparable ratio is ten to one.

The increase in unemployment in Ontario has been only partly due to employment declines in certain industries which, although offset in total by employment expansion in other industries, have meant more unemployment because it has not been possible for all workers to shift quickly from one industry to another. The other main cause of increased unemployment has been the significant additions which were made to the labour force in Ontario during 1951 and which were not matched by an overall increase in job opportunities. The natural growth of the population in Ontario during 1951 resulted in a net increase of about 20,000 to the regional labour force, while in addition, 59,000 immigrant workers came to Ontario last year. There has been no such increase in the total number of jobs available.

Total employment in the Ontario region now is approximately the same as it was a year ago. A slight drop in the farm working force has been offset by a small rise in non-agricultural employment. But, the picture varied widely in different specific industries. At February 1, 1952, employment was significantly higher in mining (5%), beverages (5%), railway rolling stock (18%), aircraft and parts (74%), shipbuilding (42%), farm implements (10%), machinery (9%), primary iron and steel (8%), paper products (6%), petroleum and coal products (4%), construction (8%), and transportation (5%). On the other hand, marked declines of employment have occurred over the year in clothing (12%), furniture (16%), electrical apparatus (6%), vehicles (12%), iron castings (11%), sheet metal products (8%), leather products (15%), rubber products (6%), textile products (14%), wood products (8%), and non-metallic mineral products (6%).

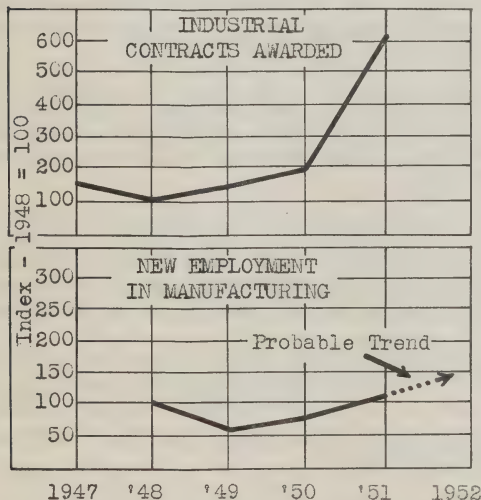
There will be a sharp reduction in unemployment in Ontario as spring activities open up. In the very nature of these activities, the job opportunities they afford will attract in the first instance those who now are seasonally unemployed. The defence production program will continue its gradual build up, absorbing varying numbers of workers depending on the industry and program involved. Consumer expenditures on durables and semi-durables may revive slightly now that the provisions of the new federal budget are known. As compared with 1951, labour demand should be at least as strong in agriculture, in mining, in those manufacturing industries associated with the defence program, in construction and in transportation. Labour needs will probably be somewhat lower than a year ago in logging, in manufacturing industries producing consumer durables, textiles and clothing, leather, rubber and wood products, and in trade.

The 1952 outlook for Ontario suggests a slowly rising trend of overall employment with only partial recovery, despite the defence production program, in consumer goods manufacturing, especially the durables sector. Unemployment will drop to levels well below the winter peak but will probably remain above those of 1951.

RECORD TOTAL OF NEW MANUFACTURING JOBS IN FIRST QUARTER, 1952

The heavy investment and large number of starts in the construction of new manufacturing plants in the year 1951 has resulted in an unusually high number of plant completions in the first quarter of 1952. Establishments getting into production in the first three months of the year are expected to employ about 6,500 workers, a record total for that period. This new employment was particularly important since it came at a time when unemployment was at the winter peak.

The situation points up some important aspects of the relationship between investment and subsequent manufacturing employment. With an average time-lag of about one year, the pattern of new employment follows the pattern of investment quite closely. The adjoining chart illustrates both these features: time lag and similarity in pattern.



On this basis, a very high volume of employment opportunities in manufacturing plants has started and is expected to continue in the rest of 1952, following the record total of \$451,000,000 in contracts awarded for industrial construction during 1951, and substantial new contracts let early in 1952.

As indicated in the accompanying chart, new manufacturing employment in 1952 is not expected to follow the 1951 investment pattern as closely as in previous years. In the first place, the extremely high investment total in 1951 was chiefly the result of larger projects, many of which will not be completed until 1953 or 1954. Secondly, heavy investment took place in industries

such as chemicals, where investment is very high in relation to new jobs created.

Industrially, defence and associated projects have provided much of the new plant construction completed up to April of this year.

The Canadian Pratt & Whitney Co. has commenced hiring the first of some 3,000 workers for its new aircraft engine plant at Montreal; workers being recruited at the present time are all in the skilled classifications. The Weatherhead Company of Canada, Ltd. at St. Thomas recently completed a \$1.5 million extension which will require 250 additional workers during 1952. Cockshutt Aircraft Ltd. at Renfrew recently commenced

operations, and may employ as many as 400 workers by July. In the automotive field, Clevite Ltd. at St. Thomas completed a new plant that will require 120 new workers.

In line with the tremendous growth in the radar and television fields, the Canadian General Electric Co. recently completed a plant extension at Quebec City that doubled the production facilities for "Alnico" magnets. A company statement reads:

"Equipment is planned to produce Alnico Magnetron Assemblies----These assemblies produce the constant and uniform magnetic field necessary for operation of magnetron tubes which generate ultra high frequency power for radar transmitters."

Other products to be produced are for use in television focus assemblies, and in another case new directionalizing equipment. These operations will employ an additional 150 workers.

The Canadian General Electric Co. also has completed an extension to its Royce Works at Toronto, where the production of equipment related to television and commercial communications will require about 400 more workers by the end of 1952.

The rubber products industry features a new firm, Canadian Sponge Rubber Products Ltd., a subsidiary of the Sponge Rubber Products Company of Connecticut. This firm, located in Waterville, Quebec, has taken on 50 workers for training, and a payroll of 150 is anticipated.

Much expansion is being carried out in the abrasives manufacturing industry. At Niagara Falls, Lionite Abrasives Ltd. recently expanded the abrasive furnace plant and hired 26 workers, while the Norton Co. Ltd. recently completed a \$1 million expansion of production facilities which required 100 additional workers.

Considerable industrial expansion has taken place in the Canadian machinery and machine tools industries. The Dominion Engineering Works Limited at Lachine, has been working on three extensions, one of which, a machine shop addition, was recently completed and will employ 20 additional workers. Five other machinery and machine tools firms hired a total of 160 new workers because of plant expansion.

NON-SEASONAL LAYOFFS LIGHTER DURING MARCH

The pattern of non-seasonal lay-offs in manufacturing industry during March was varied; firms producing consumer durable goods, except radios, were relatively free from lay-offs for the second consecutive month, while the prolonged slump in the primary textile industry persisted, with some further lay-offs. Lay-offs also were reported in the paper products industry. On the whole, non-seasonal lay-offs in total were extremely light in comparison with heavy seasonal lay-offs in logging, canning plants, and tobacco processing firms.

In the meat packing industry, lay-offs reached a short-term peak of 1,350 workers about mid-March, but by the end of the month all but 391 workers had been re-hired and, except for quarantined areas, employment prospects improved.

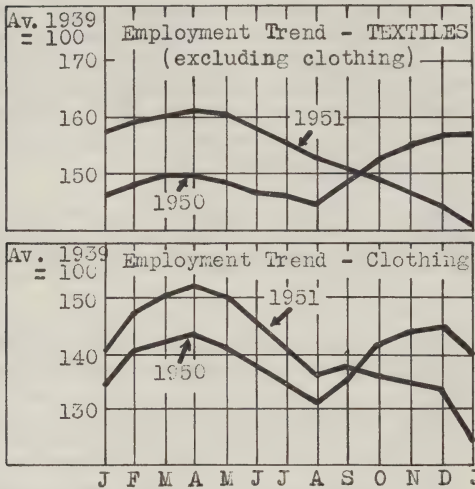
Employment in the electrical apparatus industry has remained at a high level despite heavy lay-offs in firms producing household appliances. To date, production of stoves, refrigerators, washing machines and radios has declined but in the electronic equipment and heavy apparatus sections of the industry expansion has taken place.

At least two of the largest refrigeration firms in Canada are increasing employment after a marked slump. Frigidaire Products of Canada, Ltd. at Toronto, will employ an additional 500 workers on defense work as soon as the refrigeration division can be moved into a new plant recently completed at Toronto. This firm has released about 700 workers since June, 1951. Kelvinator of Canada Ltd. at London, re-hired 125 workers out of about 350 released. Canadian General Electric Co. Ltd. at Toronto has cut its staff by about 300 workers, but a new plant extension will soon employ 400.

The Canadian textile industry has been in a slump since early 1951, reflecting a depressed world-wide textile condition. As can be seen in the accompanying chart the usual marked seasonal gain in employment in both clothing and primary textile firms after July, 1951 was replaced by a steady decline in employment. Employment in the clothing sector hit a seasonal low at January 1, 1952 of 85,200, a drop in reported employment of 11,400 workers below the seasonal low at January 1, 1951. Similar data for primary textiles show a drop of 7,100 this year when winter low points are compared.

The clothing industry, particularly in Quebec, has shown improvement, but primary textiles is still very slack. There is still a large number of workers in the industry on short time, which is not reflected in reported employment statistics.

The protracted slump in consumer durable goods, textiles and leather products appears to have affected firms producing containers for these products. The slump in consumer durable goods production,



because of shortages of orders, started in the early summer of 1951 and the first lay-off in the containers industry occurred in August. The number of workers involved has not been heavy until the past two months. In February, Hygrade Containers Limited, at London only laid off 50 workers, but 150 were placed on a four day week. In March, Kraft Containers Limited, at Hamilton released 30 workers, while 200 were placed on short time. The St. Regis Paper Co. (Canada) Ltd. at Three Rivers, producing multiwalled paper bags, placed 400 workers on short-time. Another paper bag firm, Continental Paper Products, had 80 workers on a four day week. In another

instance, the result has been the complete shutdown of a paperboard mill for one week, followed by short time.

Because of a decline in some business lines, several fine paper products firms are working short time. The Provincial Paper Ltd. plant at Georgetown, Ontario had 200 workers on a four day week, while the Alliance Paper Mills Limited also has placed 200 workers on a 30-hour week.

Industry	No. of Plants Reporting Lay-offs in March(1)	No. of Workers Affected
Iron and steel products....	7	310
Food and beverages.....	-	1,425
Meat packing plants.....	-	(1,350)
Clothing.....	3	200
Wood products.....	10	350
Paper products.....	4	200
Textile products.....	9	450
Electrical apparatus.....	7	350
Chemical products.....	2	60
Non-ferrous metal products.	2	20
Rubber products.....	1	50
Miscellaneous products.....	1	40
Totals.....	46	3,455

(1) As reported by National Employment Service offices.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

APRIL 1, 1952

Number of Areas

LABOUR MARKET GROUPINGS ¹	CANADA	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	PRAIRIES	PACIFIC
1. Substantial Labour Surplus	49	11	26	6	-	6
2. Moderate Labour Surplus	40	7	8	16	3	6
3. Slight Labour Surplus	77	8	9	35	20	5
4. Balanced Labour Market	12	1	-	4	6	1
5. Marked Labour Shortages	-	-	-	-	-	-
Per cent job applications to wage and salary workers	9.9	13.2	11.6	7.7	8.3	11.6

¹For definition of groupings, see key to map chart on following page.

Sharp seasonal reductions in this winter's larger eastern Canadian logging work force resulted in a greater rise in total job applications in Canada during the month of March than during the previous period. Changes over the month are set out in the following tabulation:

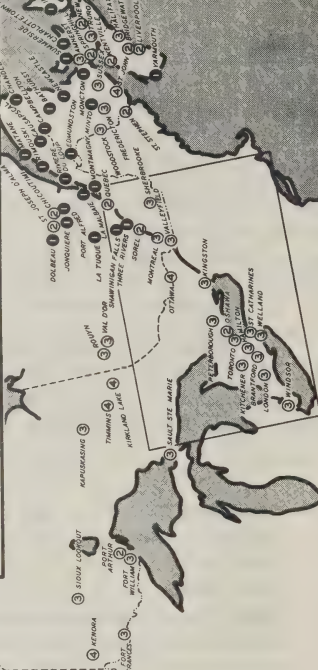
	April 1	March 1	Change
Atlantic.....	52,600	46,800	+ 5,800
Quebec.....	132,400	114,600	+17,800
Ontario.....	109,400	111,800	- 2,400
Prairies.....	48,800	48,300	+ 500
Pacific.....	41,600	49,400	- 7,800
CANADA.....	384,800	371,000	+13,800

The rise of 23,600 in job applications in the two eastern regions was only partially cushioned, in the total, by the decline of 10,200 in Ontario and the Pacific. In the last, logging employment was gaining ground again and contractors were hiring for major projects to the extent that some shortages of skills were sustained, others developed and more are expected.

The slackening of eastern logging brought a considerable increase in the number of localities with substantial labour surpluses. Where there had been 36 at March 1 there were 49 a month later. Most of the deterioration during March took place in localities where there were already large manpower surpluses. Thirteen localities moved from the "moderate" to the "substantial" group, six moved from the "slight" to the "moderate" group, and two from the "balanced" to the "slight" group.

A regional analysis of the shifts of localities between groups points up the marked worsening in the Quebec region and the slight deterioration in the Atlantic region. Ontario remained stable and the Prairies almost so. Offsetting to some extent the less favourable conditions in the eastern regions was a slight further reduction in the number of local areas in the less favourable groups in the Pacific region.

APRIL 1, 1952



RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT TO 15% AND SALARY WORKERS		KEY	DEFINITION
1	15% AND OVER		SUBSTANTIAL LABOUR SURPLUS
2	10 TO 14.9%		MODERATE LABOUR SURPLUS
3	5 TO 9.9%		SLIGHT LABOUR SURPLUS
4	LESS THAN 5%	WITH 10% OFF-ANNOUCE 11% OFF-ANNOUCE	BALANCED LABOUR MARKET
5	LESS THAN 5%	WITH 10% OFF-ANNOUCE 11% OFF-ANNOUCE	MARKED LABOUR SHORTAGES

In the Atlantic region, the employment picture during March **ATLANTIC** was one of generally lessened activity. The chief reason for this declining employment was seasonal interruptions in industries sensitive to changing weather conditions. Closure of the lumbering and pulp cutting season accounted for the greatest proportion of new job applications in the region and the areas most seriously affected were predominantly the same as a month earlier. While the effect of the spring break-up on woods work was apparent in the Bridgewater, Springhill, Truro, Minto and Sussex local areas, the most pronounced employment declines occurred in the Grand Falls area and centres in Northern New Brunswick. At the beginning of April, registrations at Atlantic region offices of the National Employment Service totalled 52,600, some 5,500 above the total at the beginning of the previous month. By occupation, 2,200, representing 40 per cent of the increase, were loggers and bushmen.

Outdoor work that was sluggish during February suffered further setbacks during the spring thaw. The immediate effect of the thaw was the closure of the Provincial highways to heavy trucking, causing an upsurge in N.E.S. registrations of truck drivers and sawmill workers. Most mills in the region have exhausted their supply of logs and will remain inactive until log hauling can be resumed.

The down-turn in employment opportunities in Bathurst, Campbellton, Edmundston and Newcastle witnessed the first appearance this winter of the latter two areas in the "substantial" surplus category. Although woods workers constituted the most significant proportion of unemployment increases in these areas during the month, greatly reduced construction crews at the Chatham R.C.A.F. base aggravated the rise of job applications in the Newcastle area; and small temporary lay-offs in paper manufacturing, caused by a power shortage, helped to swell the labour surplus in Bathurst. Alternative employment, however, will shortly absorb most workers in these areas when the river drive and construction projects open up.

The first quarter of 1952 was slow for dock work in St. John's. N.E.S. registrations of longshoremen quickened during March, adding to an already substantial labour surplus; but unemployment will shortly taper off as construction and navigation open up. Brisk activity continues, however, in Saint John and along the Halifax waterfront. The volume of freight traffic in Halifax will increase with the completion of the new pier 3 sometime in April.

A highlight of the employment picture during March was the approximate balance of labour supply and demand in the Saint John local area. The current shift from a "slight" to a "balanced" labour market, however, means a relatively small change in employment conditions over the previous period and follows the upward trend of the past three months. Registrations with the N.E.S. have declined steadily in the area since November, 1951, and were fewer at the end of March than at any time in 1951. There was a 5 per cent decline in unemployment during the month

and there is presently 20 per cent less unemployment than a year ago. A high level of activity in manufacturing and shipbuilding, together with extensive construction and dock work, offer increasing job opportunities in the area. It is expected that when this year's construction program gets into full swing there will be a shortage of skilled tradesmen.

Despite current labour surpluses in a large number of areas, there is evidence of a growing shortage of certain skilled and semi-skilled tradesmen in the region. In Liverpool, extensive ship repair work provided continuing employment for 150 additional workmen during the month and orders for moulders, welders, draftsmen, iron workers and electricians although met locally, were a drain on the available supply. In Halifax, the heavy demand for machinists, marine engine fitters and welders exceeds the supply.

In the construction skills, there will be spot shortages when the construction projects get under way. The demand is expected to be particularly strong in Newfoundland. Hirings already have started for the construction of an air base near Corner Brook, and it is estimated that 2,500 (all trades) will be needed. Electricians, plumbers, plasterers and bricklayers already are in short supply in several areas of the region.

QUEBEC As of March 27, 1952, about 132,500 unplaced applicants were registered with N.E.S. offices in the Quebec region, as compared with about 95,600 at the same date in 1951.

The employment situation in this region is somewhat obscured when data on unemployment alone are considered. Many local labour market areas are points of departure or arrival for loggers, and with numerous loggers leaving the woods during March unemployment rose considerably. This impact has been especially noticeable this year because a record number of loggers were engaged in wood cutting. As the cutting season began earlier than usual this year, a larger number of loggers were able to build up a contribution record sufficient to register for unemployment insurance. Since a large proportion of Quebec loggers are farm workers, the fact that they are registering with the N.E.S. does not necessarily signify that they are unemployed to the same degree as industrial workers, because these loggers drift gradually back to farm work. With the driving season approaching it was expected that a larger number of men this year than last will be needed to "harvest" the heavier cut. The demand for farm help was quite low following the ice-cutting season but will soon begin to rise as the spring season develops.

In mining there was no change during March and the demand for workers remained low with mines well staffed. However, underground crews are expected to dwindle, a seasonal occurrence, when surface work begins. This movement of workers is likely to create a shortage of underground miners. Quarries, which had been seasonally closed, were resuming work gradually and were requiring an increasing number of workers.

Employment in plants working on defence contracts remained high, with an increased demand for technical skills. Capital goods industries were also active. However, foundries reduced production owing to falling orders, particularly for stoves and furnaces. The drop in orders for these goods reflected partly the decline in housing as compared with last year. The primary textile industry continued to be depressed with little prospect of an early recovery. Unsettled negotiations between unions and employers caused further textile employment declines in centres such as Valleyfield and Montreal, while in other textile centres, Drummondville and Quebec, textile employment remained generally low. Secondly textiles were more active, particularly in the case of firms producing women's apparel. The knitted goods industry was busier notwithstanding large inventories. At the end of March it was reported that the leather and leather products industry was showing increased activity owing partly to defence contracts; the general employment expectations were more optimistic in Quebec and Montreal. The furniture industry, which was depressed since last fall, was more active with a reasonable volume of new orders. No improvement took place in the tobacco industry. There was some decline in activity in the pulp and paper industry and two paper-making plants at Three Rivers reduced their working schedule to three days per week. The reduced work week in the paper-making industry in some centres is the result of planned reduction of inventories. Employment in asbestos products manufacturing was reduced somewhat owing to high inventories and a diminishing demand. However, this condition was not expected to last long.

Construction was still at a low ebb with a large number of unskilled construction workers unemployed. Employment in shipbuilding was increasing as weather conditions became more favourable.

Of all the regions, Quebec had the largest number of centres with substantial labour surpluses. Of the designated local areas, 26 were in the above category while 8 had moderate labour surpluses, 9 had slight labour surpluses and none were classified as having balanced labour markets or marked labour shortages.

Aside from logging the employment situation in the Quebec region as a whole did not change appreciable during March although some improvement took place in the furniture industry, the leather and leather products industry and in secondary textiles.

ONTARIO In the Ontario region, active job applications declined 2,400 to an end-month total of 109,400 during March. The start of the seasonal decline in unemployment, although involving so far a relatively small number of workers, augurs well for the near future. This favourable outlook is bolstered by the continuing decline in the extent of short-time work, as indicated by a drop of 2,700 in the number of claims for short time unemployment insurance benefits. The Ontario total of 13,800 at the end of the period remained higher than that for Quebec (11,800) for the third consecutive month, an unusual feature at this time of the year.

In 36 of the region's 61 designated local labour market areas, there were declines in the volume of unemployment during March. Very few localities shifted into more favourable groupings, however. The close of log cutting and hauling activity increased manpower surpluses in a good many northern areas, where activity in logging and sawmilling will not be resumed until drier weather and ground conditions prevail. Lay-offs at textile and paper mills brought Cornwall into the "substantial" surplus category during the month, while the manpower surplus in Pictou, formerly in that category, was reduced by the recall of footwear workers and the seasonal re-opening of cement block manufacturing.

There still was no apparent pattern to developments in manufacturing in the region. Although generally slack, slight, scattered improvements showed up in the textile, leather, rubber and furniture industries. Meat packing establishments were hiring workers for pork processing, having recovered almost entirely from the hesitation induced by the outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease in the prairies; while activity in confectionery slackened. There were reductions of working time in mills producing fine paper and containers, as markets softened relative to stocks. Signs of improving conditions appeared in both major auto manufacturing centres. In Oshawa, 150 workers were recalled and an additional 450-500 new workers were hired. In Windsor, Ford of Canada may take on up to 1,000 more workers and applicants now are being screened. The machinery industry in Brantford continued to expand, with shortages of tool-makers and arc welders becoming more acute. Additions to the aircraft industry's payrolls continued to be made through March.

The spring upswing in construction activity has been held up by unfavourable weather and ground conditions, which are expected to improve shortly. While there will be a drop in the volume of residential building this year in comparison with 1951, many institutional and industrial projects are ready to start. On the whole, the construction industry probably will be very busy again this year, and shortages of skills may become fairly extensive.

The four localities remaining in the "balanced labour market" category were Fort Erie, Kirkland Lake, Ottawa and Timmins. The basic causes of these favourable conditions in these areas remain unchanged from last month.

PRAIRIE The spring thaw in the Prairie region marked the beginning of the annual move of workers from woods and mines to farming or other summer work. At the beginning of April the upswing in agriculture, construction and transportation was just sufficient to balance the effect of the reduction in woods work in the Lakehead area, so that total unemployment showed little change over the month.

In contrast to other regions, labour surpluses were no more than slight in 90 per cent of the labour market areas in the Prairie region.

Moderate surpluses occurred in only three areas, while in Flin Flon, Edson, Drumheller, Red Deer, and Dawson Creek the relatively low level of job applications indicated an approximate balance in the supply of and demand for labour. In most of the larger cities the labour surpluses were slight, with construction workers forming the largest group of unemployed. Although little construction activity was under way, it was expected that the high volume of industrial and defence construction planned for this year would quickly absorb the surplus pools of construction workers.

Shortage of farm labour is expected again this year, due in part to the anticipated increase in construction. Snow had disappeared over much of the southern part of the region by the month's end, and job vacancies for farm help rose sharply from 250 to 900. Wages offered were about the same as last year, with the exception of the Lethbridge area, where \$175 to \$200 per month was offered for farm couples. The harvesting of last year's grain crop has created an additional short term demand for labour but because this work may be completed before construction is fully underway, sufficient help should be available.

Conditions in manufacturing were generally more buoyant in March. An aircraft firm in Winnipeg has more than doubled its staff recently, bringing the number of workers employed to 900; and additional hiring of aircraft workers took place in Edmonton and Fort William. Activity in food manufacturing was seasonally low, but the clothing industry in Winnipeg is experiencing its busiest season in two years. In the meat packing industry, most of those laid off because of the outbreak of hoof and mouth disease have been recalled, but restrictions on the movement of cattle have had an unfavourable effect on employment in the industry.

The completion of the winter pulpcutting program, with a resulting increase of over 1,200 job applications, created a moderate labour surplus in Port Arthur. The successful winter cut increased inventories of most companies to satisfactory levels, so that the number of woods workers employed in the Lakehead area this summer may be about 3,000 less than last year. Lay-offs were heavy in Fort William also, but a greater degree of activity in aircraft production, construction and rail transportation kept the labour surplus below the moderate category.

PACIFIC Employment conditions in the Pacific region continued to improve during March and early April. Logging operations in the coastal areas approached normal levels and the demand for farm workers strengthened as spring work got underway. In consequence, the number of job applications at the offices of the National Employment Service at the beginning of April was considerably lower than the winter peak of 57,500 at the end of January. Substantial labour surpluses occurred in six of the eighteen labour market areas, compared to eight a month earlier.

Ground conditions still delayed the upswing of activity over a large part of the region. At Prince George, a majority of the crews of over 400 sawmills were released for a period of about six weeks because of the closure of logging roads. In this and other interior parts of the province, full-scale operations in mining, large construction projects and logging were impeded by heavy snow.

Vancouver Island experienced the most extensive reduction in unemployment. At the end of February, substantial labour surpluses, amounting to as much as 30 per cent of the paid working force, existed in three of the four logging areas. At the beginning of April, Duncan was the only remaining area in the substantial surplus category, and lumbering activity was expected to be back to normal within a fortnight. On Vancouver Island, where lumber export is an important activity, there is some uncertainty regarding export demand after the United Kingdom contracts run out this fall; but the scale of currently planned woods operations indicate that a shortage of skilled loggers may be expected to develop early this summer. Other occupational shortages already have developed in this region. At Whitehorse, it is expected that special efforts will be needed to satisfy the demand for mining and construction workers unless the influx of transient labour this summer is large. Current requirements include 250 mine labourers, the first of which are due to arrive from Vancouver early in April. Although construction of the Edmonton-Burnaby pipeline is not yet under way, the contractors have been conducting welding tests, and orders for a substantial number of welders have been cleared by the National Employment Service to other parts of the country. Orders for rock tunnel men, heavy duty mechanics and maintenance mechanics for the Aluminum Company of Canada project have been in clearance for over a month.

From the amount of work planned for 1952, it is probable that construction employment this summer will reach last year's high level. Estimates of investment in new construction, at \$380 million, are slightly higher than last year, with institutional services, utilities and housing heading the list as usual. This year, however, the emphasis has shifted from housing, commerce and finance to industrial projects, which will exert considerable pressure on the available labour supplies in specific areas. The construction of the Kitimat townsite and the other parts of the Aluminum Company developments in northern British Columbia will require several thousand additional workers. Although most of these will be brought in from Vancouver, the project undoubtedly will compete for local labour with the logging industry in Prince Rupert, which has been employing an increasing number of workers since operations began at the Columbia Cellulose Company plant.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

APRIL 1, 1952

Seasonal releases of woods workers in eastern Canada were the most outstanding feature of the labour market scene during March. At the same time there were more obvious signs of revival in seasonal lines such as farming, construction and Great Lakes navigation. In manufacturing, there were seasonal moves in both directions; while defence production activity continued its gradual rise and some of the more or less depressed consumer goods industries showed signs of improvement.

The cumulative impact of these varied tendencies in the labour market resulted in a slight increase in the number and variety of manpower shortages. While surpluses of specific occupational categories appeared in a still greater number of localities, fewer categories were affected by the end of March. These changes are summarized in the following table.

	<u>Apr.1/52</u>	<u>Mar.1/52</u>	<u>Jan.1/52</u>	<u>Oct.1/52</u>
No. of areas with occupational shortages.....	30	22	39	73
No. of occupations with local shortages.....	19	14	10	23
No. of areas with occupational surpluses.....	168	164	153	44
No. of occupations with local surpluses.....	41	47	36	25

The most pronounced changes in the shortages list over the month have been the disappearance from it of all evidence of demand for loggers and bushmen and the re-appearance of unsatisfied demand for farm help, temporary though much of it may be. Shortages of skilled metalworkers increased in shipbuilding, aircraft and machinery centres, and are likely to become still more acute and more extensive. Demand picked up for some of the building trades, but the development of shortages of most construction skills will not advance far until the summer months. Electronics technicians were in stronger demand in Ottawa.

Surpluses of seasonal workers such as loggers and bushmen, carpenters and unskilled construction workers, which are among those excluded from the following list because of space considerations and their relatively little significance at this time, became very extensive during March. Loggers and bushmen were surplus in 50 localities in the three eastern regions; in Port Arthur, Fort William and Winnipeg; and in 15 areas of the Pacific region, although they were on the decline there. Carpenters were surplus, often in substantial numbers, in all localities in the Atlantic

and Quebec regions, in 48 areas in the Ontario region, in 19 in the Prairie region and in all but one of the Pacific region areas.

While surpluses of engineers and draftsmen appeared only in Montreal again this month, the surpluses were greater at April 1 than at March 1. As navigation opens up, there will be further reductions in the extent and severity of surpluses of seamen, which declined slightly over the month. There were somewhat fewer surpluses of both primary and secondary textile workers than at the beginning of March, the improvement having been restricted largely to localities in Ontario. Surpluses of metalworking skills began to ease off during the period in most parts of the country, while the number of auto workers available for employment in Oshawa and Windsor was sharply reduced. With the impending opening of the tourist season, and the demand for construction machinery maintenance crews, surpluses of auto mechanics rapidly became deleted.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES — MALE

April 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Toronto.....	179	46			
<u>Sales Personnel</u>					
Halifax.....	158	52	Ottawa.....	93	57
<u>Farm Hands</u>					
Brampton.....	34	2	Regina.....	47	18
Ottawa.....	99	3	Saskatoon.....	111	29
Stratford.....	30	3	Yorkton.....	37	11
Brandon.....	47	12	Lethbridge.....	245	53
Moose Jaw.....	60	17			
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Halifax.....	31	5	Fort Erie.....	12	-
Hull.....	50	6	Orillia.....	17	4
St. Jean.....	14	4	Ottawa.....	47	11
Sorel.....	105	5	Weston.....	89	4
Brantford.....	15	2			
<u>Machine Shop Workers</u>					
Weston.....	98	20			
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
Windsor.....	42	5			

Local Occupational Shortages — Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Levis.....	110	9	Windsor.....	22	23
Brantford.....	18	4			
<u>Electricians</u>					
Liverpool.....	10	-	Sorel.....	32	2
Moncton.....	25	16			
<u>Aircraft Workers</u>					
Fort Erie.....	27	-	Weston.....	368	-
<u>Miners</u>					
Blairmore.....	43	1	Courtenay.....	44	-
Yellowknife...	23	4	Whitehorse.....	23	4
<u>Plumbers & Steamfitters</u>					
Corner Brook..	25	4	Stratford.....	10	2
Moncton.....	55	18	Windsor.....	20	16
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>					
Corner Brook..	25	4	Stratford.....	10	2
<u>Plasterers</u>					
Corner Brook..	22	11			
<u>Routemen</u>					
Ottawa.....	40	13			
<u>Mechanics & Repairmen</u>					
Ottawa.....	61	18			
<u>UNSKILLED OCCUPATIONS IN: Lumber & Lumber Products</u>					
Edson.....	44	8			
<u>Metalworking</u>					
Sudbury.....	41	6			
<u>Mining</u>					
Sudbury.....	37	4	Whitehorse.....	273	35
Yellowknife...	28	3			
<u>Construction</u>					
Sault Ste. Marie	342	100			

In determining the occupations and areas to be included in the foregoing table, National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers, first were examined. Where vacancies exceeded applications by fifty or more in any one occupational group, the occupation and area or areas affected were included in a preliminary listing. These data, however, tend to give a better picture of the supply side of the labour market than the demand side, for most job seekers find it to their advantage to use the facilities of the Employment Service when out of work because of the availability of unemployment insurance. There is not the same incentive for employers to list their job vacancies. Reference, therefore, is necessary to a variety of qualitative material, including reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by Local Employment Office managers. This results in refinements to the preliminary list, in the process of which some occupations and areas may be deleted and others, for which the early statistical evidence was less conclusive, may be added.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SURPLUSES — MALE
(excluding unskilled workers)

April 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Montreal.....	355	83			
<u>Draftsmen</u>					
Montreal.....	356	52			
<u>Seamen</u>					
St. John's.....	511	2	Montreal.....	579	-
Charlottetown....	50	-	Quebec.....	184	-
Summerside.....	25	-	Rimouski.....	43	-
Bridgewater.....	33	-	Sorel.....	162	7
Halifax.....	78	-	Three Rivers.....	160	-
New Glasgow.....	35	-	Collingwood.....	116	-
Sydney.....	144	-	Cornwall.....	76	-
Yarmouth.....	38	-	Midland.....	167	-
Moncton.....	77	-	Owen Sound.....	241	4
La Malbaie.....	268	-	Sudbury.....	62	-
Levis.....	154	-	Vancouver.....	396	7
Montmagny.....	58	-			
<u>Primary Textile Workers</u>					
Drummondville....	81	-	Montmagny.....	33	-
Granby.....	122	-	Montreal.....	129	4

Local Occupational Surpluses — Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Primary Textile Workers (Cont'd)</u>					
St. Hyacinthe..	77	3	Victoriaville...	64	-
Shawinigan Falls	36	-	Carleton Place..	80	-
Sherbrooke.....	125	-	Galt.....	33	-
Three Rivers...	86	-	Toronto.....	126	4
Valleyfield....	59	-			
<u>Secondary Textile Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	651	39	Toronto.....	446	28
<u>Cabinetmakers & Woodworkers</u>					
Granby.....	46	-	Victoriaville...	52	-
Levis.....	36	-	Kitchener.....	86	-
Montreal.....	155	9	Owen Sound.....	43	1
St. Georges de			Toronto.....	229	5
Beauce....	28	-	Walkerton.....	30	-
St. Hyacinthe..	32	-	Vancouver.....	128	-
<u>Chemical Workers</u>					
Cornwall.....	277	-			
<u>Rubber Products Workers</u>					
Oshawa.....	104	-			
<u>Boot & Shoe Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	141	43	Shawinigan Falls	37	-
Quebec.....	240	-	Oshawa.....	63	-
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Farnham.....	37	1	Vancouver.....	158	23
<u>Sheet Metal Workers</u>					
Toronto.....	151	10			
<u>Foundry Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	108	3	Toronto.....	168	6
Oshawa.....	106	-			
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
New Glasgow....	28	2	Kapuskasing.....	42	-
Montreal.....	134	9			
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Toronto.....	210	17			

Local Occupational Surpluses — Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Electricians</u>					
Montreal.....	183	5	Vancouver.....	118	-
Toronto.....	202	2			
<u>Automobile Workers</u>					
Oshawa.....	59	-			
<u>Miners</u>					
St. John's....	62	-	Val d'Or.....	43	-
Inverness....	57	-	Midland.....	39	-
New Glasgow...	68	-	Sudbury.....	86	-
Rouyn.....	64	7	Edmonton.....	92	7
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>					
Halifax.....	50	-	Cornwall.....	33	-
Drummondville.	33	-	Hamilton.....	106	-
Montreal.....	479	-	Toronto.....	504	8
Quebec.....	209	-	Windsor.....	79	-
Shawinigan Falls	28	-	Edmonton.....	79	-
Three Rivers..	54	-			
<u>Plasterers</u>					
Montreal.....	182	1	Toronto.....	192	-
<u>Plumbers & Steamfitters</u>					
Montreal.....	511	-	Vancouver.....	145	1
Toronto.....	163	4			
<u>Stationary Engineers & Firemen</u>					
New Westminster	56	-	Vancouver.....	220	5
<u>Cranemen & Shovelmen</u>					
Grand Falls...	28	1	Vancouver.....	109	7
Duncan.....	35	1			
<u>Millwrights</u>					
Shawinigan Falls	43	-			
<u>Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen</u>					
Rimouski.....	87	2	Toronto.....	146	32

The foregoing table lists the areas in which there were, at April 1, 1952, excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male

workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations. The basis on which the table was built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is	The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was
over 100,000	100 or more
50,000 to 100,000	75 or more
25,000 to 50,000	50 or more
under 25,000	25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service Offices. Clerical and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e.g. foremen, apprentices, other unskilled workers).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS
(Preliminary Data)

Item	1952		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>					
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S..	March 27	384,850	+ 3.7	+ 32.6	+ 26.1
Per cent of labour force.....	March 27	7.4	7.1x	-	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	March 27	10.1	9.8x	-	-
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C. (1)....	March 1	316,409	- 0.7	+ 29.8	+ 29.4
Per cent of insured population.....	March 1	10.0	10.0x	8.2x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	March 1	82.2	87.8x	82.2x	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$'000)....	February	15,751	+11.4	+ 45.8	+ 44.1
Index of employment (1939 = 100).....	Feb. 1	177.9	- 1.7	+ 3.3	+ 3.2
Immigration.....	Dec./51	19,676	-11.5	+178.7	+163.0
<u>Earnings and Income</u>					
Total labour income (\$'000,000).....	January	833	- 0.5	+ 14.1	-
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	Feb. 1	\$ 52.94	+ 5.0	+ 10.6	+ 11.0
Average hourly earnings (mfg.).....	Feb. 1	\$ 1.27	+ 0.1	+ 15.2	+ 15.9
Average hours worked per week (mfg.)..	Feb. 1	41.5	- 0.5	- 3.3	- 3.2
Average weekly wages (mfg.).....	Feb. 1	\$ 52.79	- 0.4	+ 11.5	+ 12.3
Cost-of-living index (av.1935-39=100)	March 1	189.1	- 0.9	+ 5.2	+ 8.3
Real weekly earnings (mfg.av.1946=100)	Feb. 1	114.4	- 0.2	+ 2.2	+ 2.1
<u>Industrial Production</u>					
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	January	203.8	+ 1.7	+ 3.0	-
Manufacturing.....	January	207.2	+ 1.1	- 5.4	-
Durables.....	January	254.7	+ 5.1	- 5.6	-
Non-durables.....	January	179.6	- 1.9	- 5.1	-
<u>Industrial Relations</u>					
Strikes and lockouts - days lost.....	February	47,603	-36.7	+136.8	+231.1

(x) These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

(1) Includes supplementary benefit.

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L.L.D., Deputy Minister

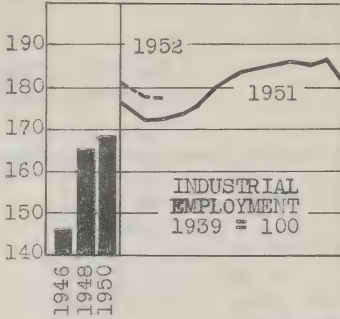
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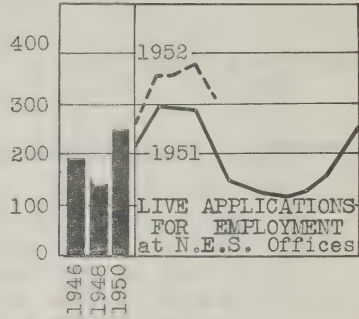
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LABOUR

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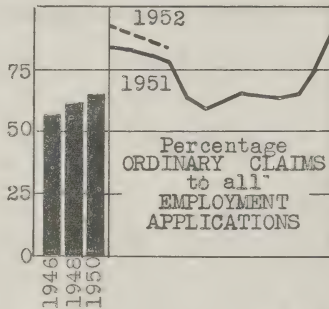


Thousands

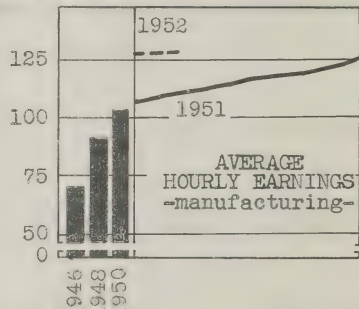


MARKET

Per Cent

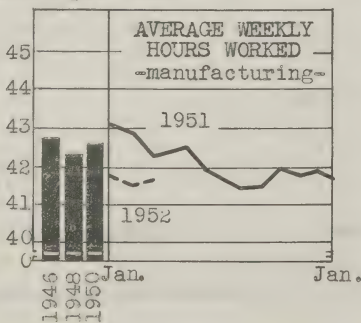


Cents per Hour

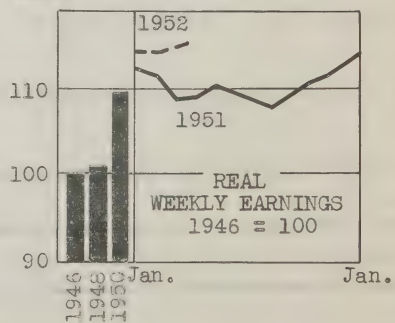


TRENDS

Hours per week



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CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

The impact of seasonal hiring on unemployment now is well advanced. One indication of this is the recent sharp drop in the number of applications for work on hand at National Employment Service offices. These applications have declined by 124,000 since the peak number of 385,000 was reached at April 3. Live applications totalled 261,200 at May 15, 1952. Also indicative of the surge in labour demand is the number of unskilled vacancies listed with the National Employment Service. From April 3 to May 15, 1952 vacancies have risen from 31,300 to 45,200.

The current labour market situation for skilled workers is significantly different from that which existed a year ago. This year the demand for loggers, and metal and electrical manufacturing workers is considerably less than in 1951, while the demand for farm workers, construction tradesmen, and miners is greater. There has been a shift in labour demand from secondary manufacturing to large construction projects and to the primary industries (except logging). Nevertheless, men fully qualified in trades requiring lengthy experience continue to be readily absorbed, and the fact that demand is reduced for skilled metal workers and other manufacturing tradesmen should not be interpreted to mean that there is a surplus of such workers. Despite the fairly high unemployment of last winter, there was at all times an unsatisfied demand for skilled workers, such as machinists, welders, patternmakers, tool and die makers, electricians, ship fitters, radar mechanics and draftsmen.

Employment in the logging industry continues to be considerably less than at the same time last year. Figures published by the Pulp and Paper Association, which cover about 60 per cent of all employment in logging, show that peak employment of 76,200 in 1952 was reached at January 31. By April 26, a drop of 62,000 had occurred and employment was down to 14,600. Last year, the peak was 63,700 and the subsequent drop by April 28 was 26,000. In the first few weeks of May, employment in logging had started to pick up and the most recent figures show that 28,000 workers were employed at May 10 as compared with 38,000 at the same date a year ago. It is anticipated that summer cutting this year will be considerably less than in 1951.

The Department of Labour has just completed its second Employment Forecast Survey for 1952. This survey covers anticipated employment up to the first of October of this year. In terms of year-to-year comparisons, employers are forecasting a decline of about 1% in manufacturing employment by July 1 and a slight increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ % by October 1. Employment in the producer finished goods industries will continue to be the dynamic force in the manufacturing economy. Year-to-year increases of about 9% for both July and October are anticipated by employers. There has been, however, a fairly sizeable downward revision of employers plans in this industry group, with signs that the rate of expansion is slowing.

Employers in the consumer finished goods industries expect year-to-year declines of about 4 and 1% at July 1 and October 1 respectively. At the present time, employers in the non-durables segment, particularly in the clothing industry, are rather fearful of future prospects and thus pessimism is reflected in their forecasts. On the other hand, the situation appears to have brightened somewhat for consumer-durable goods producers partly as a result of changes in government policy regarding credit and sales taxes.

Industries producing basic materials anticipate year-to-year employment declines of about 3% at July, 2½% at October 1, 1952. This overall picture obscures some divergent movements in component industries. Sizeable year-to-year employment declines are anticipated by employers in those industries supplying the needs of consumer goods producers (i.e. textiles). Firms supplying heavy industry are quite optimistic on the other hand.

On the whole, employers' forecasts suggest that the absorptive capacity of Canadian industry during the summer months may be somewhat weaker than during the same period in 1951. On the demand side of the labour market, the producer goods industries will continue to hire a considerable number of workers. The demand for labour in agriculture will continue to be strong while the present supply diminishes because of the continuing exodus of people from farms. There would also appear to be a strong demand for construction workers although the disproportionate size and distribution of the various undertakings will create problems of labour mobility. The outlook for employment in residential construction would appear to be somewhat better than it was at the turn of the year.

The outlook for employment in consumer durables is more uncertain. While retail sales are expected to rise gradually and the sub-contracting effects of the defence program will become more extensive, the employment impact of these factors may be partly mitigated by the amount of short-time work still prevalent and by the high inventories still held by some manufacturers.

The consumer non-durable industries, particularly clothing and textiles, constitute the weakest sectors in the labour market. Unemployment is apt to persist in those industries during 1952, and may even increase if defence orders fall off sharply towards the end of the year.

On the supply side of the labour market there will be a sufficient number of workers available, both unskilled and semi-skilled, due to present levels of unemployment, the natural growth of the labour force and to immigration.

Balancing this supply against probable demand, it appears that while total employment will continue higher than last year, the expansion in job opportunities will not be great enough to offset the corresponding growth in the labour force. As a result, unemployment throughout 1952 will probably be higher than it was in 1951.

PRAIRIE GAS AND OIL DEVELOPEMENTS BRING NEW JOBS IN MANUFACTURING

The employment effects of the current economic growth of the Prairie provinces, largely based on oil resources, may be considered in two stages. First, there is the temporary employment provided by construction and exploration work. Secondly, the development provides continuing employment in mining, refining and distribution fields. Broadly speaking, the high rate of investment now going on provides a large volume of short-term construction work followed by a low volume of permanent employment.

Since the discovery of oil at Leduc early in 1947, production of petroleum products in Canada jumped from 7,600,000 barrels that year to 48,100,000 barrels of crude oil in 1951.

Based on this production increase, five large new refineries have been built, three in Edmonton, one in Winnipeg and one in Moose Jaw. A large number of smaller firms have increased productive capacity. Total year-round employment in these five new refineries is estimated at about 700 workers, or an average of 140 per plant.

The growth of secondary industries other than refining may eventually provide the largest volume of employment arising out of the development of oil and natural gas resources. In particular, the chemical industry has experienced significant expansion in recent years.

The largest example of this type of growth is the Canadian Chemical Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of the Celanese Corporation of America. This company is making rapid progress with its \$50,000,000 plant at Edmonton. A construction labour force of 2,000 workers is currently employed, half of whom are skilled. Permanent staff of the plant, when completed in 1953, will number about 700.

Canadian Industries Ltd. are employing about 300 men in the construction of their \$10,000,000 plant, also at Edmonton. The labour force required for manufacturing operations, when started in 1953 is expected to total about 200.

Many workers are required to construct an oil pipeline but relatively few workers are employed in operating and maintaining it. The employment plans of the Trans-Mountain Pipeline Co., building from Edmonton to Vancouver, provide a good example of this ratio. Construction work on the line is expected to provide employment for about 1,300 men during the 1952 and 1953 seasons. Permanent employment on maintenance of the line will be about 150, including workers on the Edmonton and Kamloops pump stations, the Burnaby terminal as well as actual pipeline maintenance.

Other industries in addition to chemical plants are attracted by low-cost natural gas supplies, and may provide a significant number of permanent new jobs in the future. A good example is the new Sherritt-Gordon nickel refinery being built at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, which will employ 175-200 when completed in two years' time. Employment will be provided for about 800 men for two years.

In sum, the employment picture for the Alberta region resulting from oil and natural gas development indicates continued heavy construction employment for a period of several years on pipelines and manufacturing plants, as well as exploration work. A solid core of permanent manufacturing and mining employment is meanwhile growing up, although numbers involved do not compare with labour requirements for the original development work. From the labour force point of view, the region remains dominantly agricultural.

NON-SEASONAL LAY-OFFS LIGHT IN APRIL

Reported non-seasonal lay-offs in Canada during April were relatively light but concentrated in a few industries. The slight drop in fine paper production in March was accentuated in April and activity in the primary textile industry was still very slack. Household appliance manufacturers appeared more active, largely because of defense contracts. Automotive manufacturers have recovered from the marked slump last summer and fall, and are busy on 1952 models, with most laid-off workers recalled.

The usual strong spring demand for consumer durable goods and textiles was considerably reduced this year, and especially weak in the furniture industry. The recent lifting of credit regulations should stimulate sales thus further reducing inventories at the retail level.

Lay-offs in paper products firms which started in the containers sector have now spread to plants producing fine and specialty papers, pulp, and paper board. During the month at least 670 workers were laid-off, and a minimum of 1,700 workers placed on short-time in the industry.

In the manufacturing of fine and specialty paper products, the E. B. Eddy Company, at Hull, Quebec placed 550 workers on short-time; workers are being encouraged to take annual paid holidays during this slack period. Two writing paper firms near Brampton, Ontario, have 400 workers on a four day week. Actual lay-offs involve 100 workers temporarily released at Cornwall, Ontario. Two fine paper firms, one at St. Jerome and the other at Lachute, Quebec released about 90 workers, with an additional 80 on short-time.

A weakening in the sulphite pulp market has resulted in short-time at the Canadian International Paper Co. sulphite mill at Hawkesbury involving 500 workers on a three day week; seasonal barking operations at both the Hawkesbury and Sudbury mills will be cut in half affecting well over a hundred men, when hiring starts in May. The Great Lakes Paper Co. at Fort William, Ontario, released 35 workers, and the sulphite department is on short-time. Another sulphite plant at Dolbeau, Quebec is on short-time.

Paperboard firms are also affected by a drop in orders. The Bathurst Power and Paper Co. at Bathurst, New Brunswick released 300 workers for at least ten days, and two Quebec firms, one at Quebec city and the other at Three Rivers were on short-time.

Lay-offs in the containers industry, resulting largely from marked slump in consumer durable and semi-durable goods industries, have been continuing for some time now. A few additional releases occurred in April, the largest lay-off being 85 workers from two Gair Co. of

Canada Ltd. plants in Ontario. A firm engaged in the lithographing and production of paper containers at London, Ontario, put 100 workers on short-time. In all, containers manufacturers reported 100 workers laid-off and 170 on short-time.

Employment conditions in the primary textile industry did not improve during April. Some 600 workers were released by the industry with the Penman's Co. Ltd. at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec laying off 275 workers, and the Regent Knitting Mills Ltd. at St. Jerome, Quebec 200 workers.

Reported Non-Seasonal Lay-offs in Manufacturing Industries
May, 1952

Industry	No. of Plants Reporting Lay- offs in April (1)	Number of Workers Affected
Chemical products.....	2	100
Electrical Apparatus.....	3	70
Clothing.....	5	150
Food & Beverages.....	1	70
Iron & Steel products.....	9	670
Leather products.....	2	40
Miscellaneous products.....	1	50
Non-ferrous metal products.....	2	20
Non-metallic mineral products.....	2	70
Paper products.....	10	670
Textile products.....	5	600
Wood products.....	3	270
Total.....	45	2,780

(1) As reported by National Employment Service Offices.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS **MAY 1, 1952**

Number of Areas

<u>LABOUR MARKET GROUPINGS¹</u>	<u>CANADA</u>	<u>ATLANTIC</u>	<u>QUEBEC</u>	<u>ONTARIO</u>	<u>PRAIRIE</u>	<u>PACIFIC</u>
1. Substantial Labour Surplus	32	9	18	3	-	2
2. Moderate Labour Surplus	26	3	17	3	1	2
3. Slight Labour Surplus	78	15	8	35	8	12
4. Balanced Labour Market	42	-	-	20	20	2
5. Marked Labour Shortages	-	-	-	-	-	-
Per cent job applications to wage and salary workers	7.9	11.6	10.2	6.0	5.2	9.0

¹For definition of groupings, see key to May chart on following page.

The month of April brought a pronounced drop in the number of active job applications filed with the N.E.S. in all regions of Canada. This marked improvement is indicated in a comparison of the ratio of job applications to paid workers, set out in the last line of the above table, with those of a month ago which were, respectively, 9.9, 13.2, 11.6, 7.7, 8.3 and 11.6. The detail of the changes in absolute terms is set out in the following tabulation:

	<u>May 1</u>	<u>April 1</u>	<u>Change</u>
Atlantic.....	46,000	52,600	- 6,600
Quebec.....	116,500	132,400	-15,900
Ontario.....	84,700	109,400	-24,700
Prairie.....	31,000	48,800	-17,800
Pacific.....	32,000	41,600	- 9,600
CANADA.....	310,200	384,800	-74,600

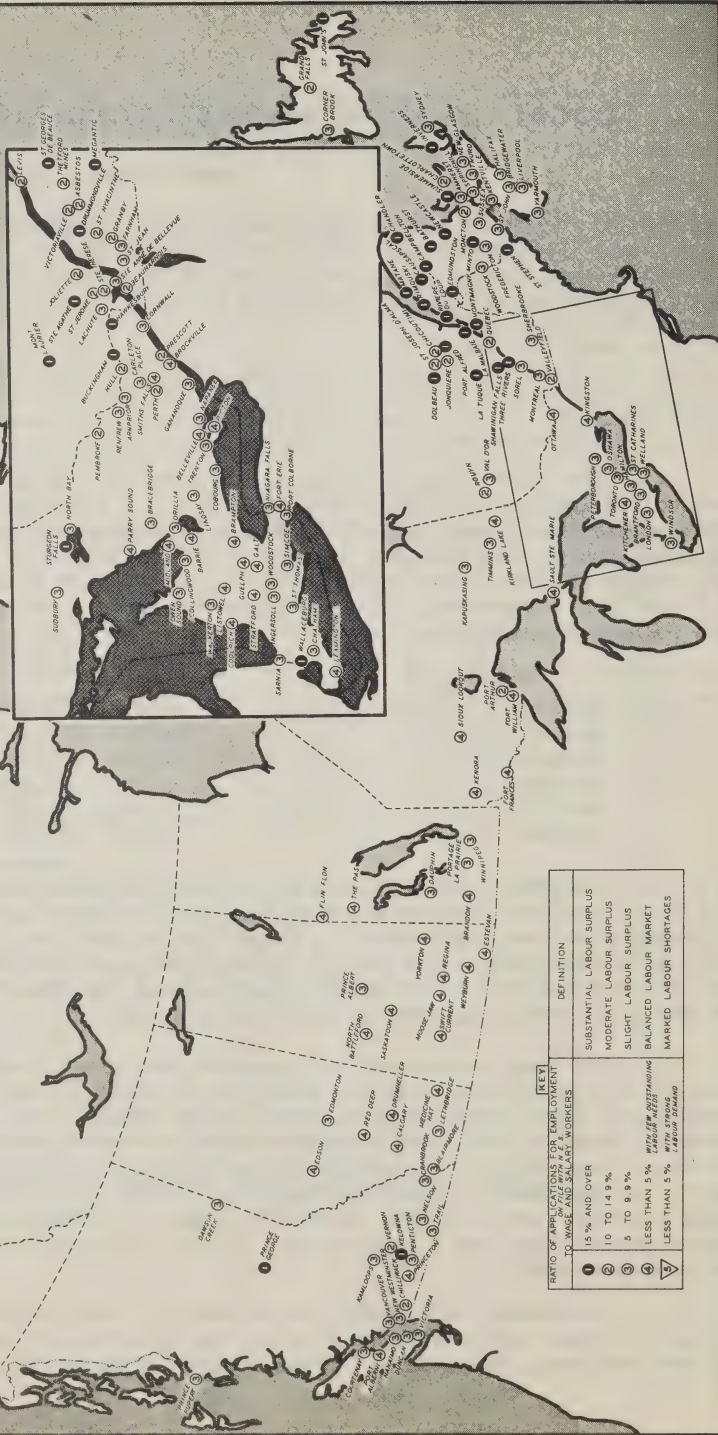
The sharp change during April resulted from the opening up of the usual seasonal activities—farming, construction, inland navigation— together with some improvement in manufacturing activity in industries that have been undergoing slack periods through the past fall and winter. As well, there has been an abnormally heavy demand for farm help arising out of the large spring harvest in the Prairie region.

The most pronounced improvements took place in the Ontario and Prairie regions where, with the exception of two localities in the Pacific region, all local areas with balanced labour markets are located. The pick-up in the Atlantic and Pacific regions was more gradual, with local areas in these regions concentrating largely in the "slight" surplus category. In the Quebec region, although the number of localities with substantial manpower surpluses was reduced by roughly one-third over the month, there were at May 1 more moderate and substantial surplus areas than at the beginning of April.

For Canada as a whole, there were 17 fewer substantial surplus areas, 14 fewer moderate surplus areas, one more slight surplus area and 30 more balanced labour market areas at May 1 than at April 1.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

MAY 1, 1952



KEY	DEFINITION
1	RATIO OF AMPLIFICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT SURPLUS
2	15% AND OVER
3	10 TO 14.9%
4	5 TO 9.9%
5	LESS THAN 5%
6	WITH STRONG TENDENCY TO MARKED SHORTAGES

A T L A N T I C During April, employment conditions in the Atlantic region were showing the first notable signs of improvement in several months. With the transition from winter to spring work, activity in most of the primary industries improved through the month, marking the beginning of the usual seasonal upswing in employment. By May 1, registrations with the National Employment Service had dropped to 46,000, representing a decline of 12 per cent for the period under review.

Although the total employment situation improved, the change of seasons had mixed effects on different industries. Unemployed woods workers continued to be the major part of the large surpluses of labour in many areas. Employment conditions in logging are expected to improve more rapidly during May, however, when the river drive gets into full swing, hauling operations are resumed, and the spring cut gets under way. Waterfront activity in Halifax and Saint John fell off also, as navigation opened on the St. Lawrence. Coastal work in Newfoundland will soon pick up, however, when the port of Botwood opens and the summer sailing schedule begins at Halifax.

While unemployment rose slightly, from an already high level, in the logging centres in Newfoundland and northern New Brunswick, seasonal influences had the effect of reducing labour surpluses in all local areas in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Yarmouth shifted from a "substantial" to a "slight" labour surplus area as the result of a marked improvement in the fishing industry and as construction workers moved out of the area to Labrador. The Charlottetown and Moncton local areas showed lesser gains as improved climatic conditions stimulated employment.

At the beginning of May, "substantial" surpluses persisted in Saint John, Summerside, Inverness, Bathurst, Campbellton, Edmundston and Newcastle local areas. While seasonal inactivity accounted for a high proportion of the excess labour supply in these areas, lay-offs in paper products industries has further reduced employment opportunities in Bathurst and Newcastle. In Inverness, closure of the coal mines brought a lay-off of about 200 workers, adding to an already deteriorated employment situation in this area. St. Stephen, making its first appearance this year in the "substantial" surplus category, showed progressive lay-offs in the textile industry.

As spring farming operations got underway, there was a marked increase in the demand for farm help. Farmers in the region showed considerable interest in German nationals; first arrivals are expected about the middle of May although this date has not been confirmed. Shortages of farm help will probably occur in some areas when construction work gets into full swing. The volume of planned construction in the region, considerably above last year's high level, is expected to compete with the demand for farm help.

Shipbuilding continued to be active during the month and although a lay-off of 70 workers occurred in Halifax with the completion of some repair jobs new repair work is expected to start shortly. In the Liverpool area, ship repair and refitting of mine sweepers and other naval craft are keeping shipyards busy and a shortage of moulders, welders, draftsmen, iron workers and electricians is reported.

At the beginning of May, employment conditions in the
QUEBEC Quebec region were somewhat better than a month earlier.

Registrations at N.E.S. offices totalled some 115,000, marking a decline of 12 per cent over the month, but still 56 per cent above the same period a year ago. During the first two weeks of April unemployment continued to rise, but declined during the latter part of the month with the up-turn in spring activity.

With cutting and hauling operations coming to an end for the season registrations of woodworkers rose, but job opportunities for these workers will become more numerous early in May when driving operations, the spring cut and construction work gets underway. While spring cutting is not expected to be as extensive as last year, a fairly large volume of work is anticipated. Some of the smaller sawmills remained fairly active during the month but in many areas there was an insufficient supply of logs to keep the mills busy. Mining employment was heightened with the resumption of quarrying operations and increasing prospecting activity in the Eastern Townships, Quebec City, Western Quebec and the Gaspé district. The number of stevedores registered for work declined during the month with the opening of port activity.

Lower levels of production in a number of industries are reflected in the concentration of "substantial" and "moderate" surplus labour market areas. Of the 32 "substantial" surplus areas for all regions, 18 were in Quebec; 17 of the 26 "moderate" surplus localities were also in Quebec. Logging areas were still the most pronounced unemployment centres with Causpascal, Chandler, Dolbeau, La Malbaie and Port Alfred remaining the most serious. In the more industrialized areas short-time and lay-offs continued to occur in textiles, clothing and paper products with no apparent improvement in sight. At St. Hyacinthe, 1,000 employees from six primary textile plants are on short-time and 275 persons have been laid off for an indefinite period. Textile plants throughout Eastern Townships continued to be depressed and there is skepticism on the part of many firms regarding any immediate improvement. While furniture and leather products maintained a fairly stable employment level and defence contracts assisted the clothing industry, a shortage of orders caused small lay-offs in chemical plants at Buckingham and Shawinigan Falls.

Despite only nominal gains in construction employment during April, a heavy volume of work is planned for 1952. Estimates of investment in new construction during 1952, at \$915 million, represents a

decline in volume of only one per cent from last years high level. An anticipated drop of \$65 million in housing construction and a smaller carry-over of work this year than last, however, indicates lower labour requirements, especially for carpenters. A noteworthy feature of this year's construction programme is the emphasis placed on those industries contributing directly to the defence effort and those engaged in developing strategic natural resources. Since the shift from building construction to engineering type of construction will become even more accentuated in the current year than in 1951, employment dislocations will become more prevalent. Large projects in some of the more remote areas will have to secure skilled workers from other centres where surpluses exist.

Some of the large hydro-electric plants under construction for operation in 1952-53 include two developments on the Peribonka River, two plants on the Shipshaw River, a project on the Manicougan River and the St. Lawrence River project at Beauharnois. Peak construction employment for these plants during the summer is expected to total several thousand workers. Industrial expansion for defense will also be an important source of demand for workers; four large plants under construction in the Montreal area alone will cost about \$15 million.

ONTARIO Unemployment dropped sharply in Ontario during April as employment conditions in seasonal industries improved. An increase in the numbers hired for work in agriculture and construction was chiefly responsible for a drop of 25,000 in the number of job applications registered with the National Employment Service. The first week in May saw a further decline of 6,000 applications, bringing the total to 78,400. This total is 37,600 greater than the number of applications on file at May 10, 1951.

A gradual expansion in the production of aircraft, ships, railway rolling stock and steel contributed to the higher level of employment. During the past twelve months, additions to the number of workers engaged in these industries have been an important factor in the slight increase in total non-agricultural employment in the province. It is expected that further substantial employment increases will continue in these industries throughout the summer.

In consumer goods industries, lay-offs were less frequent and some firms were recalling workers previously released, but the total numbers employed remained well below the level of 1951 and 1950. Increased sales of electrical appliances, radios, television sets and clothing together with lower levels of inventories at the retail level have created a more favourable employment outlook. Since inventories at the manufacturing level are high, however, and because a large number of factory workers are on short time, any increase in employment will probably be gradual and will first take the form of a longer work-week.

Although surpluses of labour in some of the larger industrial areas were almost twice as great as they were last year, substantial reductions occurred during the month. Job applications declined by 16% in Toronto. In Windsor employment was approaching normal in auto and auto-parts plants. In this city an early start on aircraft assembly is expected with a consequent addition of 600 workers to the Ford Motor Company payroll.

The increase in farm, construction and industrial work during April resulted in the disappearance of labour surpluses in 16 smaller areas. An increase in civilian and defence contracts for footwear together with an upswing in meat packing was responsible for a stronger demand for workers in Kitchener. Skilled workers were required for railway track maintenance and the expansion of steel capacity in Sault Ste. Marie. Heavy demand for farm workers continued in Barrie, Brampton, Goderich, London and Ottawa.

Areas of moderate and substantial labour surplus declined from 22 to 6 during the month. In most of the remaining areas, notably in Hawkesbury and Sturgeon Falls, the low level of logging and sawmilling operations was mainly responsible for the relatively heavy unemployment. In the former area a reduction in the work week at the Canadian International Paper Company affected 500 workers; 250 of these registered for employment at the N.E.S. office. At Prescott a strong demand for construction workers is expected to absorb the current unemployment that has developed through the low level of textile production.

PRAIRIE Employment conditions improved rapidly during April. Unseasonably warm weather made possible an early start on seasonal work and there was a marked strengthening in demand for retail trade and for service workers. Workers seeking jobs through the National Employment Service dropped sharply to less than 3.5 per cent of the labour force. In contrast to higher year-to-year totals in other regions, job applications in the Prairie region were 8 per cent lower than at the end of April, 1951.

The general upswing in activity affected all industries except coal mining. Some of the 7,000 woods workers released in the past two months were rehired to transport the winter's cut to the mills, others returned to work in construction and agriculture. In the manufacturing industries, employment in aircraft firms continued to expand slowly. Textile and clothing firms were busy on defence and civilian orders. Workers laid off by meat packing plants were recalled, and additional help was hired as livestock deliveries increased. Since the number of cattle and hogs on farms has increased, largely as a result of the ban on export of live animals to the United States, a high level of activity in this industry is expected during the rest of the year.

Labour surpluses declined in 14 areas during the month, leaving a moderate surplus in Port Arthur and slight surpluses in Winnipeg, Portage La Prairie, Dauphin, Prince Albert, Blairmore, Edmonton, Lethbridge

and Dawson Creek. In the remaining 20 areas of the region labour demand and supply were in approximate balance, with some scarcities in specific occupations.

The most notable development of the month was the rapid increase in demand for farm workers. The warm drying weather enables farmers to harvest most of the crop left over from last year and, in many areas, to seed this year's crop and harvest last year's concurrently. This double amount of work created a demand for farm labour that National Employment Service Offices were, for the most part, unable to satisfy, despite higher wage offers. Although harvesting was almost completed at the end of the month, demand for farm help is expected to remain substantially the same through May until seeding is completed.

In an effort to relieve this serious shortage, free transportation was offered to farm jobs within each of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, the cost to be shared between the Federal and Provincial governments.

The relatively early start on construction work contributed to the decline in job applications. As indicated in the chart, total investment in new construction is greater than last year's high level. New construction in Alberta is again more than twice as great as in either of the other two provinces because of the heavy investment in utilities, primary industries and defence projects in the northern part of the province. These developments were quickly absorbing unemployed workers in most construction occupations during the first half of May and an early shortage of construction labourers is anticipated in Calgary, Edmonton, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Regina. However, a substantial drop in home building coupled with a smaller volume of manufacturing expansion in the eastern part of the region has created labour surpluses in these trades, notably in Winnipeg and Port Arthur. Some of these will undoubtedly migrate westward and so help to ease the situation in that sector.

PACIFIC A drop during April of almost 10,000 job applications listed with the National Employment Service in the Pacific region reflects the upswing in those industries that are governed to a large extent by weather conditions. The number of substantial labour surplus areas was reduced from six at the beginning of the month to two by May 1. Heavy unemployment in Prince George and Kelowna was caused by the temporary closure of logging roads and the consequent shutdown of the saw-milling plants in these centres. In over two-thirds of the 18 designated labour market regions, including Vancouver and Victoria, the number of people seeking work through the N.E.S. was less than 10 per cent of all wage and salary workers.

The region's large construction program was getting more fully underway during the month. At the month's end, most areas carried surpluses of construction labour but these were being gradually absorbed with the upswing in home building and hydro and industrial construction projects.

Industrial construction for the region is expected to exceed last year's large total by 4 per cent and although earlier expectations indicated a reduction in residential work, the number of housing units started in the larger urban centres during the first three months of 1952 was 30 per cent greater than in the similar period last year.

The upswing of employment in the region, however, was not as great as had been expected earlier. Employment in sawmilling firms has been about 7 per cent below last year. Expansion in the pulp and paper industry has caused some increase in total logging employment but the number of workers engaged in falling timber has been reduced. Almost 2,000 loggers were seeking jobs through the National Employment Service at the end of April this year compared with 800 at the end of April, 1951.

A great deal of the present difficulty in the logging industry can be traced to the drought of last summer, which caused the suspension of logging operations for the better part of three months. In the period that followed log supplies were reduced and the price of saw logs rose substantially, while the price of finished lumber declined. The lack of balance between the price of logs and lumber has not seriously affected firms whose logging and sawmilling operations are integrated, but a number of those that buy logs on the open market have been forced to shut down. This situation might be expected to right itself fairly quickly with the relatively large sawlog production of the past months. There is, however, a considerable degree of uncertainty regarding future exports of lumber. Present contracts with the United Kingdom will probably be completed in September and as yet there is no sign of any further orders. At the same time, competition in the U.S. market in spite of a greater demand for lumber than expected has become increasingly difficult to meet because of the appreciation of the Canadian dollar. Since these two countries absorb between 60 and 65 per cent of the region's lumber production, a reduction in shipments to these markets could well mean lower employment in the logging industry during 1952.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

MAY 1, 1952

Shortages of specific occupations appeared in more localities during April, and more occupational groups were affected. On the other hand, there were also more surplus occupational groups at the beginning of May, although the number of areas with surplus occupations was considerably reduced. Change over the month, and comparisons with earlier dates, are shown in the following table:

	<u>May 1</u>	<u>April 1</u>	<u>Mar. 1</u>	<u>Jan. 1</u>	<u>Oct.1/51</u>
Number of areas with occupational shortages.....	46	30	22	39	73
Number of occupations with local shortages.....	22	19	14	10	23
Number of areas with occupational surpluses.....	148	168	164	153	44
Number of occupations with local surpluses.....	43	41	47	36	25

Seasonal shifts in the Canadian labour force continue to show up in the shortage-surplus picture. These are well illustrated in the growing demand for farm help, construction skills and labour that is reflected in the ensuing shortages list; and in the declining surpluses of seamen and construction manpower shown in the surplus list. Sustained or slightly increased demand for metalworking skills, particularly in Ontario localities, reflect more the needs of the defence production program, although containing also an element of seasonality.

Surpluses of engineers and draftsmen in Montreal remain substantial, and indicate not only a very light demand for these categories generally, but also the difficulty experienced in matching available workers with the specific requirements of the jobs available. Primary textile workers were surplus in two more areas at the beginning of May than they were a month earlier, and no significant improvement for this industry is in sight. There was very little change during April in the demand-supply situation relative to leather workers, miners, automobile mechanics, with a few scattered surpluses of each of these occupations persisting.

Surpluses of seasonal and unskilled workers, excluded from the accompanying list at this time, remain extensive. Loggers and bushmen were surplus in a few more localities than a month ago. Carpenters were available in relatively large numbers in 129 local areas at May 1 as against 154 localities at April 1. As at the earlier date, however, the bulk of these surpluses of carpenters were in the Atlantic (25 areas), Quebec (41 areas) and Ontario (36 areas) regions. These figures represent

slight declines in the number of localities with surpluses of carpenters in all of these regions. Unskilled lumber and lumber products workers and construction workers remain surplus in a large number of local areas. Surpluses of unskilled metalworkers persisted through the month in 13 localities, 11 of them in Ontario. Very substantial surpluses of these workers are recorded in Montreal, Brantford, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Toronto and Welland. Continuing surpluses of longshoremen, confined almost entirely to Atlantic ports, will gradually reduce as alternative activities open up in the Atlantic region and as the 1952 navigation season gains momentum along the St. Lawrence.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES -- MALE

May 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Toronto.....	174	45			
<u>Draftsmen</u>					
Windsor.....	30	3			
<u>Sales Personnel</u>					
Halifax.....	146	47	Ottawa.....	97	45
London.....	108	56			
<u>Farm Hands</u>					
Charlottetown..	44	8	Prince Albert..	66	13
St. Hyacinthe..	751	-	Regina.....	126	12
Barrie.....	33	7	Saskatoon.....	291	21
Brampton.....	49	4	Swift Current..	86	3
Goderich.....	31	-	Weyburn.....	33	6
London.....	62	18	Yorkton.....	101	7
Ottawa.....	255	1	Calgary.....	167	10
Stratford.....	51	-	Drumheller.....	31	1
Brandon.....	109	12	Lethbridge.....	425	16
Moose Jaw.....	155	3	Red Deer.....	49	7
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
Halifax.....	15	11	Kingston.....	10	7
New Glasgow....	26	3	Orillia.....	17	4
Hull.....	50	3	Ottawa.....	50	8
Brantford.....	26	4	Windsor.....	159	12
Fort Erie.....	15	-			

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Corner Brook.....	12	1	Levis.....	102	12
Halifax.....	23	10	Collingwood....	15	7
<u>Electricians</u>					
Liverpool.....	10	1	Moncton.....	20	15
<u>Aircraft Workers</u>					
Fort Erie.....	26	-	Weston.....	14	-
<u>Miners</u>					
Blairmore.....	61	1	Whitehorse.....	30	1
Courtenay.....	50	-			
<u>Bricklayers</u>					
Corner Brook.....	24	5	Moncton.....	64	22
<u>Carpenters</u>					
The Pas.....	39	6			
<u>Plumbers & Steamfitters</u>					
Corner Brook.....	22	10	Moncton.....	53	17
<u>Routemen</u>					
Ottawa.....	51	7			
<u>Blasters, Powdermen & Drillers</u>					
Moncton.....	50	5			
<u>Auto Mechanics & Repairmen</u>					
Moncton.....	127	28			
UNSKILLED OCCUPATIONS IN:					
<u>Lumber & Lumber Products</u>					
Causapscal.....	100	2	Rimouski.....	200	8
<u>Mining</u>					
Sudbury.....	139	4	Whitehorse.....	225	8
Vancouver.....	68	35			

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Construction</u>					
Sault Ste.					
Marie.....	308	88	Regina.....	125	71
The Pas.....	65	-	Calgary.....	115	32
Moose Jaw....	117	31	Medicine Hat...	40	14
<u>Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities</u>					
Fredericton...	48	16	Fort William...	37	3
Sudbury.....	40	3	Prince Albert..	40	12

In determining the occupations and areas to be included in the foregoing table, National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers, first were examined. Where vacancies exceeded applications by fifty or more in any one occupational group, the occupation and area or areas affected were included in a preliminary listing. These data, however, tend to give a better picture of the supply side of the labour market than the demand side, for most job seekers find it to their advantage to use the facilities of the Employment Service when out of work because of the availability of unemployment insurance. There is not the same incentive for employers to list their job vacancies. Reference, therefore, is necessary to a variety of qualitative material, including reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by Local Employment Office managers. This results in refinements to the preliminary list, in the process of which some occupations and areas may be deleted and others, for which the early statistical evidence was less conclusive, may be added.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SURPLUSES - MALE

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Montreal.....	306	93			
<u>Draftsman</u>					
Montreal.....	311	74			
<u>Farm Hands</u>					
Kelowna.....	57	1	Penticton.....	47	-
<u>Seamen</u>					
Corner Brook.....	25	-	Montmagny.....	27	-
St. John's.....	414	-	Montreal.....	328	-
Charlottetown....	31	-	Quebec.....	79	1
Sydney.....	75	-	Sorel.....	45	-
La Malbaie.....	72	-	Three Rivers...	51	-
Levis.....	43	-	Vancouver.....	324	11
<u>Primary Textile Workers</u>					
Drummondville....	67	-	Shawinigan Falls	37	-
Granby.....	88	-	Sherbrooke.....	147	2
Montmagny.....	35	-	Three Rivers...	81	-
Montreal.....	172	9	Valleyfield....	117	-
St. Georges de			Victoriaville..	47	7
Beauce.....	46	-	Carleton Place.	59	-
St. Hyacinthe....	89	-	Peterborough...	59	-
St. Jerome.....	55	-	Toronto.....	114	-
<u>Secondary Textile Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	591	57	Winnipeg.....	124	23
Toronto.....	495	4			
<u>Cabinet Makers & Woodworkers</u>					
Granby.....	37	-	Victoriaville...	44	-
Levis.....	30	3	Owen Sound.....	28	2
Montreal.....	146	8	Kitchener.....	75	-
St. Georges de			Toronto.....	180	1
Beauce.....	29	-			
<u>Pulp, Paper & Paper Goods Workers</u>					
St. Stephen.....	28	-	St. Jerome.....	39	-
<u>Printing & Publishing</u>					
Montreal.....	151	4	Toronto.....	220	4

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Chemical, Petroleum & Coal Workers</u>					
Cornwall.....	106	74			
<u>Boot & Shoe Workers</u>					
Quebec.....	215	-	Shawinigan Falls	38	-
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
New Westminster	56	-	Vancouver.....	181	18
<u>Machine Shop Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	265	62	Wallaceburg.....	54	-
Toronto.....	494	49			
<u>Foundry Workers</u>					
Oshawa.....	70	7	Toronto.....	110	1
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Toronto.....	206	20			
<u>Blacksmiths</u>					
Toronto.....	181	3			
<u>Electricians</u>					
Montreal.....	143	1	Vancouver.....	111	1
Quebec.....	76	-			
<u>Miners</u>					
St. John's....	59	-	Minto.....	127	52
Inverness....	47	-	Rouyn.....	75	10
New Glasgow...	47	-	Val d'Or.....	48	2
<u>Brick Layers & Tile Setters</u>					
Montreal.....	352	5	Toronto.....	377	13
Quebec.....	134	8			
<u>Painters, Construction & Maintenance</u>					
St. John's....	99	-	Three Rivers....	87	-
Montreal.....	857	8	Toronto.....	556	5
Quebec.....	89	2	Vancouver.....	224	5
Shawinigan Falls	39	4			
<u>Plasterers</u>					
Montreal.....	118	2	Toronto.....	131	-

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Plumbers & Steamfitters</u>					
Montreal.....	454	1	Toronto.....	131	1
Quebec.....	111	2	Vancouver.....	126	-
<u>Stationary Engineers & Firemen</u>					
St. John's.....	58	-	Newcastle.....	26	-
Halifax.....	50	-	Toronto.....	149	12
New Glasgow....	33	-	Vancouver.....	193	7
<u>Cranemen & Shovelmen</u>					
Grand Falls....	29	-			
<u>Millwrights</u>					
Shawinigan Falls	39	-			
<u>Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen</u>					
Chandler.....	28	1	Toronto.....	149	-

The foregoing table lists the areas in which there were, at May 1, 1952, excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations. The basis on which the table was built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is

over 100,000
50,000 to 100,000
25,000 to 50,000
under 25,000

The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was

100 or more
75 or more
50 or more
25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service Offices. Clerical and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e. g. foremen, apprentices, other unskilled workers).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS
(Preliminary Data)

Items	1952		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>					
Live Applications for jobs at NES.	May 1	310,229	- 19.4	+ 42.6	+ 29.4
Per cent of labour force.....	May 1	6.0	7.4x	-	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	May 1	8.2	10.1x	-	-
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C.(1)..	April 1	320,322	+ 1.2	+ 41.4	+ 32.4
Per cent of insured population...	April 1	10.1	10.0x	7.6x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	April 1	83.2	85.3x	78.0x	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$'000)I	March	16,891	+ 8.5	+ 39.2	+ 42.2
Index of employment (1939=100)....	March 1	177.7	- 0.1	+ 3.1	+ 3.2
Immigration.....	Dec./51	19,676	- 11.5	+178.7	+ 163.0
<u>Earnings and Income</u>					
Total labour income (\$'000,000)....	February	846	+ 1.6	+ 15.4	+ 14.8
Average weekly salaries & wages...	March 1	\$53.95	+ 1.4	+ 12.0	+ 11.5
Average hourly earnings (mfg.)....	March 1	\$ 1.28	+ 0.6	+ 14.7	+ 15.5
Average hrs. worked per week (mfg.)	March 1	41.7	+ 0.2	- 1.4	- 2.5
Average weekly earnings (mfg.)....	March 1	\$53.29	+ 0.8	+ 13.1	+ 12.6
Cost-of-living index (Av. 1935-39=100).....	April 1	188.7	- 0.2	+ 3.8	+ 7.2
Real wkly. earnings (mfg. av. 1946=100)	March 1	116.6	+ 1.7	+ 7.5	+ 3.9
<u>Industrial Production</u>					
Total (Average 1935-39=100).....	February	207.7	+ 1.3	- 3.0	- 2.7
Manufacturing.....	February	212.1	+ 1.5	- 5.4	- 5.0
Durables.....	February	259.3	+ 1.3	- 6.2	- 5.7
Non-durables.....	February	184.6	+ 1.8	- 4.8	- 4.5
<u>Industrial Relations</u>					
Strikes and lockouts - days lost..	March	65,502	+ 37.6	+286.2	+ 248.4

(x) These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

(1) Including supplementary benefit.

C A N A D I A N

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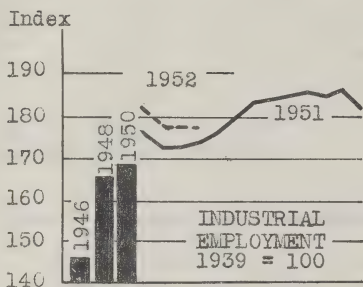
Arthur MacNamara, C. M. G.,
L. L. D., Deputy Minister

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matter is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

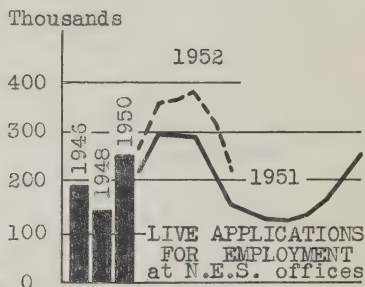
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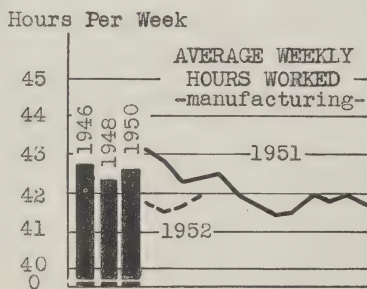
LABOUR MARKET TRENDS



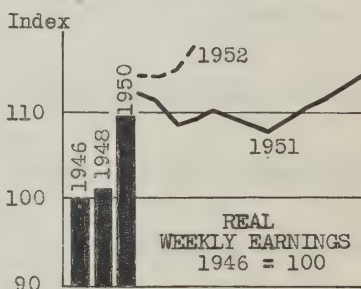
Apr. 1, 1952	177.8
Jan. 1, 1952	181.0
Oct. 1, 1951	186.5
Jul. 1, 1951	183.6
Apr. 1, 1951	173.3
Apr. 1, 1950	159.0
Apr. 1, 1948	157.4
Apr. 1, 1946	142.5



Jun. 1, 1952	224,825
Apr. 1, 1952	384,850
Jan. 1, 1952	266,581
Oct. 1, 1951	130,978
Jun. 1, 1951	151,061
Jun. 1, 1950	254,397
Jun. 1, 1948	130.925
Jun. 1, 1946	210.404



Apr. 1, 1952	42.0
Jan. 1, 1952	41.7
Oct. 1, 1951	41.9
Jul. 1, 1951	41.7
Apr. 1, 1951	42.4
Apr. 1, 1950	42.8
Apr. 1, 1948	43.2
Apr. 1, 1946	44.4



Apr. 1, 1952	118.8
Jan. 1, 1952	114.6
Oct. 1, 1951	111.0
Jul. 1, 1951	108.7
Apr. 1, 1951	108.8
Apr. 1, 1950	109.8
Apr. 1, 1948	104.9
Apr. 1, 1946	104.1

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

Labour market indicators as of early June continued to show little evidence of any basic change in the employment and unemployment situation other than the usual seasonal ones. Workers seeking jobs through N. E. S. offices totalled 212,600 at June 5, 1952, a decline of 97,600 since the first of May. Although N. E. S. applicants are still about 69,000 greater than a year ago, this gap has been narrowing steadily in recent weeks. During May last year, the decline in these figures totalled 72,700 as compared to this year's 97,600.

One noteworthy labour market development recently has been the maintenance of employment in the logging industry at levels comparable to those of last year when an unusual amount of summer cutting was being done. At June 7, 1952, employment in logging companies reported to the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, covering about 75% of all employment in the industry, was 30,500, only 4,000 less than a year ago at the same date. In Quebec, logging employment is actually greater than a year ago, especially along the north shore of the St. Lawrence east of the Saguenay River.

Aside from the usual seasonal developments, employment has become somewhat firmer in a number of consumer goods industries. This is especially true in the case of the automobile industry where employment levels, totalling 53,500 at April 1, were only 3,000 less than their record 1951 levels. In clothing, leather goods, and furniture, there has also been either some increase in employment or some reduction in the amount of short-time work or both. In the defence-connected industries steady employment gains continue to occur.

Of possible significance for future labour market conditions is the fact that consumers now may be starting to buy in larger volume than they have in recent months. Department store sales in the past few weeks have been considerably greater in value terms than a year ago. During May 1952 the value of sales was 10% greater than in the same month of 1951, the first substantial increase in more than a year. In the first and second weeks of June, department store sales were 26% and 15% higher in value than a year ago. There seems to be little doubt that the recent reduction of sales taxes and the easing of consumer credit regulations have been factors in this gain, but more fundamental has been the fact that buyers were finding themselves financially more liquid and in growing need of replacing their supplies of some goods.

Industrial disputes resulting in work stoppages have interrupted production so far this year to a considerably greater extent than in the comparable period in 1951. In the first nine months of 1952, man-working days lost due to strikes and lockouts totalled 615,000 as compared to 99,000 for the same part of last year. During the first two weeks of June 1952, 16,000 and 18,000 workers respectively were on strike while by the third week this figure had risen to nearly 50,000.

Two strikes of considerable importance are in effect at the time of writing (June 20). In Montreal and Valleyfield, almost 6,000 textile employees

went on strike on April 2, 1952 and this work stoppage was still in effect by the third week of June. In British Columbia, about 32,000 employees of the larger logging companies went on strike about June 15.

Collective agreements between the United Packinghouse Workers of America (CIO/CCL) and the large meat-packing firms--Canada Packers Limited, Swift Canadian Company Limited and Burns and Company Limited--expire on August 1 and negotiations for revisions will start in June. In addition, agreements between the Canadian railways and unions representing more than 100,000 non-operating employees expire on September 1 and negotiations are expected to get underway in July.

A comparison of relative unemployment levels in Canada and in the United States can be made on the basis of estimates from the respective sample labor force surveys or on the basis of unemployment insurance data. On the basis of labour force survey estimates, the percentage of people without jobs and seeking work to the total civilian labour force has been consistently greater in the United States than in Canada since 1947 with the single exception of March 1, 1952. These percentages are as follows:

		<u>United</u>				<u>United</u>	
		<u>Canada</u>	<u>States</u>			<u>Canada</u>	<u>States</u>
1947:	March	3.0	4.0	1950:	March	6.1	6.7
	August	1.4	3.4		August	1.9	3.9
1948:	March	3.2	4.4	1951:	March	3.3	3.4
	August	1.3	3.1		August	1.4	2.5
1949:	March	4.1	5.2	1952:	March	4.1	2.9
	August	1.9	5.8				

It is difficult to say why this March for the first time the Canadian percentage should have been higher than that for the United States. It is probable that the following factors were partly responsible: in the last year, there has been quite a withdrawal from the United States civilian labor force which has not been matched in Canada; there was an unusually large volume of immigration to Canada in the past year which on a relative basis has not nearly been matched by immigration to the United States; the drop in residential building which has occurred in Canada does not appear to have taken place in United States.

Data on the number of workers claiming unemployment insurance benefits as a percentage of the insured population are given below:

		<u>Canada</u>	<u>United States</u>
March	3, 1951	8.2	2.9
June	2, 1951	3.0	3.0
August	18, 1951	2.7	2.0
November	3, 1951	3.2	2.7
March	1, 1952	9.9	3.6

These figures show clearly how much greater seasonal unemployment is in Canada than in the United States. Part of the explanation for the large Canadian percentages at March is the provision of supplementary unemployment insurance benefits in this country. Even when supplementary beneficiaries are excluded, however, the Canadian figures for March are much higher than those for the United States.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION IN ONTARIO - 1952

The province of Ontario has for some time had the largest and most diversified manufacturing industry in Canada, and post-war industrial expansion has proceeded at a faster rate than in other regions. With one-third of the population in Canada, over 50 per cent of the new jobs created in manufacturing industries from 1948 to 1951 inclusive were in this province.

The year 1952 will produce a peak post-war figure of industrial expansion and consequent employment in Ontario, although much of the increase in new job opportunities will be the result of greater defence and capital goods expenditures, rather than the result of expansion in the consumer goods industries as was the case in previous years.

Over 8,200 workers will be required to staff plants completed in 1952, with other plants now started and due to be finished in 1953 already promising a total of 6,800 additional new jobs next year. Virtually all of the jobs opening up this year are the result of the record 1951 investment. There were 8,500 new jobs reported in Ontario during 1951 as a result of industrial expansion and 6,700 in 1950, as compared to the lower volume of 4,700 in 1949.

In the defence program, six new aircraft parts plants are opening up and will employ 2,250. These are: the Weatherhead Company of Canada, Ltd. St. Thomas, 250 workers; Thompson Products Ltd. St. Catharines, 600 workers; Lucas-Rotax Ltd. near Toronto, 600 workers; Cockshutt Aircraft Ltd. Renfrew, 300 - 400 workers; Canadian Steel Improvement Ltd. at Toronto with 300 workers; and Phoenix Engineered Products Ltd. Long Branch, 50 - 100 workers.

There are 1,600 new jobs reported in the iron and steel manufacturing industry so far in 1952. In this group, defence work and heavy industry account for the majority of new plants. Most of the twenty-five projects listed are producing tools, machinery and producers goods with expansion in consumer goods industries continuing to be slight. The largest project is the new \$1 million dollar John Inglis Co. Ltd. plant at Toronto, which will soon employ 800 workers producing marine turbines for escort vessels. Another large plant expansion is being built by the National Cash Register Co. of Canada Ltd. which will require a staff of 150 to manufacture shell fuses. The Canada Iron Foundries Limited at Hamilton is building a new \$2 million dollar plant, requiring 150 workers producing ingot moulds.

Ontario has shared in the notable growth of the chemical manufacturing industry in Canada. While greater in terms of investment than employment expansion, this industry has so far in 1952 created 640 new jobs in fourteen different projects. The two largest projects in this group are the new North American Cyanamid Ltd. \$4.5 million dollar plant extension at Niagara Falls, expected to hire 100 additional men producing chemicals for

explosives and a new company, Cabot Carbon of Canada Ltd., at Sarnia which is investing \$10 million in a new carbon black plant but whose labour requirements will total only about 60 workers.

A considerable amount of industrial expansion is also taking place in the field of electronics and heavy electrical equipment. Electrical firms account for 1,100 new jobs to date this year. About 900 of these jobs are located in two firms; the Canadian General Electric Co. Ltd. plant extension at Toronto, requiring 400 workers, and the new Frigidaire Products Canada, Ltd. plant at Toronto which requires 500 workers. The Frigidaire plant was originally intended for expanded production of appliances, but now 500 workers will be employed in the old plant on defence work, offsetting a marked slump in the appliance field.

The abrasive manufacturing field is also undergoing a period of extensive growth. Early this year, Lionite Abrasives Ltd. at Stamford, completed a plant extension and hired 26 workers, while the Norton Co. Ltd. at Chippawa, expanded hiring 100 workers. The Exolon Co. at Thorold built a plant extension requiring 40 workers.

The foregoing are only the larger expanding industries in 1952, in terms of employment. In line with current business conditions, there has been a marked drop in the number of new jobs reported in the food, textile, paper, electrical appliances, and wood products industries.

A large amount of the industrial expansion initiated in 1951 will not be completed until 1953. Twelve projects involve investment of \$190 million, of which six are in the \$10 million or more category. Employment as a result of these twelve projects in 1953 will total about 6,800 workers. A few of the larger projects are the new R.C.A. Victor Co. Ltd. electronics plant at Prescott; the Canadian Industries Ltd. plant at Brockville, and the Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd. plant at Oakville.

NON - SEASONAL LAY-OFFS IN MAY

In May, for the second consecutive month, non-seasonal lay-offs in manufacturing were concentrated in the textile and paper products industries. Furniture and leather goods plants were slacker, but short-time employment was more prevalent than actual lay-offs of workers. Separations in the consumer durable goods industry continued light.

Reported lay-offs in the primary textile industry topped 2,600 in May, and many textile centres in Quebec are faced with a high level of unemployment. Employment in the primary textile industry has, with the exception of a minor seasonal improvement at March 1, 1952, shown a continuous drop since April, 1951.

Further lay-offs occurred in pulp and paper products firms in May with an additional 325 workers reported released. Accumulative lay-offs in April and May now total about 1,000. About 1,400 workers were on short-time, a decline from 1,700 in April. Some improvement was apparent in the manufacture of fine paper products, but pulp mills were slacker than in April. A sulphite pulp mill employing 400 workers at Hawkesbury, Ontario, may be on short-time until September, and other sulphite mills are slack because of the drop in domestic and export markets for this type of pulp.

Two writing paper firms near Brampton finally returned to a full work week after having 400 workers on short-time for four months. On the other hand, two additional container firms placed 145 workers on a short-work week.

Defence projects are now helping to take up the slack in the consumer durable goods industries, where production of household appliances in particular has shown a marked drop. This lower level of production has left employment in many appliance firms, or appliance divisions of firms, at a much lower level than in mid-1951 when heavy lay-offs started.

In the first two months of 1952, refrigerator production was down 74 per cent, and washing machine production down 55 per cent compared to the same period in 1951. Similar marked declines have occurred in the production of radios and electric stoves.

A slight weakening in some iron and steel products firms was noticed in April, and in May lay-offs occurred. In April, a foundry at Three Rivers, Quebec released 73 workers, and in May, Atlas Steel Ltd. released 150 workers; a foundry at Sherbrooke laid-off 75 workers, and Canadian Iron Foundries at Hamilton laid off 50 workers, with an additional 100 on a four day week.

Many furniture and leather products firms were slack in May, and employment in the industry is currently unsteady.

Production in the automotive industry in the Windsor area was disrupted at the end of May by a strike of 1,400 Ford Motor Company office workers from May 19 to June 3. Production workers in the plant refused to cross the picket lines and about 10,600 workers were off work from May 23 to the end of the strike. Parts plants in the area were forced to lay-off workers temporarily with the duration of most of these lay-offs being less than a week.

Reported Non-Seasonal Lay-offs in Manufacturing Industries
May, 1952

Industry	No. of Plants Reporting Lay- offs in May (1)	Number of Workers Affected
Chemical products.....	1	10
Electrical Apparatus.....	2	60
Food and Beverages.....	5	170
Iron & Steel products.....	10	500
Leather products.....	1	50
Miscellaneous products.....	1	75
Non-metallic mineral products.....	2	65
Paper products.....	5	325
Textile products.....	10	2,625
Transportation equipment.....	3	260
Wood products.....	6	280
Total.....	46	4,420

(1) As reported by National Employment Service Offices.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

JUNE 1, 1952

LABOUR MARKET GROUPINGS ¹	Number of Areas					
	CANADA	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	PAIRIE	PACIFIC
1. Substantial Labour Surplus	13	2	9	1	-	-
2. Moderate Labour Surplus	18	5	11	1	-	1
3. Slight Labour Surplus	65	14	18	22	2	9
4. Balanced Labour Market	79	6	5	25	26	7
5. Marked Labour Shortages	3	-	-	2	1	-
Per cent job applications to wage and salary workers	5.7	7.9	7.1	4.3	3.9	7.3

¹For definition of groupings, see key to June chart on following page.

The month was marked by a sharp drop in the number of "substantial" and "moderate" areas in the Quebec and Atlantic regions and the appearance of three local areas with marked labour shortages—two in Ontario and one in the Prairie region. For the country as a whole the ratio of NES job applications to paid workers dropped from 7.9 to 5.7 per cent, and the number of areas with less than 5 per cent of all wage and salary workers seeking jobs increased from 42 to 82. Four fifths of these areas were located in the Ontario and Prairie regions. The following table shows the changes over the month in job applications listed with the National Employment Service:

	<u>June 1</u>	<u>May 1</u>	<u>Change</u>
Atlantic.....	31,400	46,000	-14,600
Quebec.....	82,000	116,500	-34,500
Ontario.....	64,600	84,700	-20,100
Prairie.....	20,600	31,000	-10,400
Pacific.....	26,200	32,000	- 5,800
CANADA.....	224,800	310,200	-85,400

The year-to-year trend in labour market conditions showed little change from last winter and early spring. Latest data show a fractional decline in manufacturing employment, the net result of a somewhat greater decline in the consumer goods group than the expansion in defence and producer goods industries. Unemployment at the end of May continued to be about 50 per cent higher than it was last year. Apart from the lower employment in some manufacturing industries, the main factors responsible for the higher level of unemployment are the substantial increase in the size of the labour force, a lower level of summer logging activity this year and a slower upswing in construction activity than was expected.

The easing of the demand-supply position for skilled workers has been reflected in a smaller number of areas with marked labour shortages compared to last year. The three shortage areas this month compare with the sixteen that were listed at June 1, 1951. There is still, however, a strong demand for the more highly-skilled metal tradesmen.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

JUNE 1, 1952



KEY	DEFINITION
1	RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT TO WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS
2	15% AND OVER
3	10 TO 14.9%
4	5 TO 9.9%
5	LESS THAN 5%
△	WITH FEW DIFFICULTIES IN EMPLOYMENT or marked labour shortage

ATLANTIC

Seasonal forces brought continued increases in employment and a relatively rapid drop in unemployment in the Atlantic region during May. Employment, however, was restrained by a combination of factors from reaching the relatively high level of one year ago. At June 1, registrations with the National Employment Service totalled some 31,000 representing a decline of 32 per cent over the month but still 5,200 above the total a year earlier.

Declining unemployment was apparent throughout the region. Substantial surpluses remained in Bathurst and Campbellton, moderate surpluses in St. John's, Inverness, Minto, Newcastle and St. Stephen and slight surpluses in 14 areas. Labour supply and demand were in approximate balance in the six remaining areas of the region, with shortages of specific skills occurring in some centres.

In Campbellton and Bathurst a low level of construction activity together with uncertain prospects for woods work locally was responsible for a persistently unfavorable employment situation. While the level of activity in the Campbellton area is lower than is usual for this time of year, there was a shortage of certain types of bushmen. Through the region there were some 2,000 more loggers registered for work at National Employment Service offices at June 1, 1952, than a year earlier and indications are that unless the markets for pulp and lumber become more buoyant a surplus of loggers will persist in some areas.

Fishing became normally active during the month and except for a lay-off at one plant in Halifax there was a heavy volume of work throughout the region. Lobster catches have been good despite unfavorable weather and job vacancies for cannery workers remained unfilled in Prince Edward Island.

With the exception of expansion programmes in two pulp mills in Newfoundland and two new coke ovens for the steel plant in Sydney, practically no industrial construction was in progress and residential building was at a low level. Sizable surpluses of carpenters and unskilled construction workers were evident in most centres, but the supply and demand for other skilled tradesmen appeared to be in approximate balance. Shortages of electricians, plasterers, bricklayers and tile setters that appeared in a few areas in April persisted during May. A greatly accelerated recruiting campaign for defence work in Labrador and Newfoundland is expected in June. These projects will probably absorb some of the surplus unskilled workers and create additional shortages. In the Halifax area a complete tie-up in the construction industry occurred during the month when workers went on strike for wage increases. A \$25,000,000 program, about \$18,000,000 of which is defence work, was halted by the strike.

QUEBEC

The number of job applicants registered at National Employment Service offices in Quebec at the end of May was 82,000. This figure represented a decline of 34,000 from that at the beginning of the month. At the end of May, 1951, there were 47,000 unplaced applications in the Quebec region.

Among males, the number of applications dropped in almost all occupations. The greatest improvement was among loggers, seamen, construction tradesmen, taxi and truck drivers, apprentices and unskilled workers, including longshoremen. Little or no change was noted in the number of registrations in drafting and other professional and semi-professional occupations, secondary textile manufacturing, and laundries and dry cleaning. Metalworking trades were sluggish but some improvement was reported. There was considerable demand for farm workers but few applicants. In the case of women, improvement was most noticeable in sales and service and in one or two unskilled manufacturing occupations.

Farm work in Quebec has been delayed by the late spring and wet weather. Log drives have been in full swing and some companies have completed these operations. The poor condition of the roads has retarded road-hauling of logs, and sawmill activity was necessarily reduced. Fishing has started in the North Shore and Gaspé Peninsula. Capacity mining, smelting and refining operations are reported from all parts of the region. Employment in transportation—road, rail and ship—is on the increase.

Construction activity is expanding but at a slower rate than at this time last year. Large numbers of unskilled construction workers are unemployed but a shortage of skilled construction tradesmen is expected by the end of June. The aircraft manufacturing and shipbuilding industries are increasing their staffs. The easing of credit restrictions has helped stove and furnace foundries and retail sales of automobiles. Cigarette and packaged tobacco plants are recalling their laid-off help.

Shortages of orders continued to cause many workers in textiles and miscellaneous paper products to be laid off or placed on short time in May. Toward the end of the month, however, activity in textile mills was increasing and the working week was being lengthened. Knitting mills are still faced with high inventories and activity there is unlikely to increase.

The Quebec region continued to have a relatively high proportion of local areas in the "substantial" and "moderate labour surplus" classifications. Of a National total of 18 areas in the "moderate labour surplus" group, 11 are in Quebec and of 13 areas in the "substantial surplus" class, 9 are in Quebec. These 9 areas are concentrated in the Saguenay and lower St. Lawrence valleys and the Gaspé peninsula. All of them—Causapscal, Chandler, Dolbeau, La Malbaie, Montmagny, Matane, Rimouski, Rivière-du-Loup, and Port Alfred—are heavily dependent on primary industries, especially logging, lumbering and paper products industries. Reduced programs of summer cutting, reduced demand for some paper products, the poor conditions of the roads and the late spring appear to be responsible for the persistence of substantial labour surpluses in these local areas.

ONTARIO

Employment in Ontario continued to expand during the month of May and into the early part of June, but not as rapidly as is expected at this time of year. Even though job applications registered with the National Employment Service offices in Ontario declined by more than 22,000 from May to reach a level of 62,000 at June 5, they were still over 27,000 higher than at June 7, 1951. Almost all the 61 local offices in the region report a downward trend in unemployment. Three small local offices showed slight increases in applications during May as the result of temporary dislocations. In all other parts of the region, an increase in agricultural, construction and manufacturing employment has been responsible for the steady decrease of labour surpluses. The major industrial areas have shown declines in unemployment varying from 16 to 38 per cent during the month of May. Hamilton and Toronto still have nearly double the number unemployed they had at this time last year, but in Windsor, where automobile manufacturing is back to almost full capacity and some aircraft parts manufacturing has begun, the numbers of unemployed are about the same as last year.

Manufacturing employment has been increasing fairly rapidly over the past few months and is expected to continue upward during the summer. The expansion of the aircraft, shipbuilding, electronics and petroleum industries has resulted in shortages of such skilled workers as machinists, tool and die makers in Hull and Windsor, arc welders in Collingwood, Prescott, and Toronto, drillers and drill pressers in Sarnia and Hamilton and aircraft workers in Fort Erie. Although consumer goods industries are gradually increasing production, most of the textile, furniture, leather and paper plants are still in a depressed condition. This is evident from the number of short-time claimants in Ontario--about 12,000 in May of this year, as compared with less than 2,000 during May 1951. Textile workers were being hired in some areas but most plants will be increasing the length of the work week before they require further help. To date in Brantford, Cornwall and Prescott the expansion of other industries has not been sufficient to absorb all the people laid off by the textile mills, and slight labour surpluses remain. The improvement in the furniture and electrical apparatus industries is responsible for some of the improvement in the employment situation in London and Kitchener. Automobile manufacturing has also been increasing in recent weeks with the result that the slight labour surplus in Windsor has disappeared and this locality now has a balanced labour market. Oshawa has also shown some increase in employment but there is still a slight labour surplus in that area.

The demand for farm labour was strong in most parts of Ontario and this demand will increase during the haying season in June. Shortages of farm help were expected and arrangements have been made to bring harvest workers from the Maritime and Prairie provinces. In Cornwall, Kingston and Woodstock, the demand for farm help has been slight because of the uncertain markets for dairy produce, while in Barrie, Carleton Place, Brantford, Collingwood, Perth and Windsor, farmers are unable to obtain sufficient men with farm experience.

The construction industry has absorbed a large number of workers this spring but it is slower than usual in getting underway. While defence and industrial construction are substantial, the amount of residential construction in process is much lower than it has been for the past two years, with the result that total employment in the industry is considerably reduced. The building of two R. C. A. F. stations at Clinton and Centralia have caused a shortage of construction workers in Goderich but there is a surplus of construction workers in Hawkesbury, Guelph and Sarnia, an unusual condition at this time of year. On the whole, the supply of skilled construction workers will probably be adequate in Ontario this season when workers have shifted to the busier areas.

Of the 61 local offices in Ontario, only one--Sturgeon Falls--remained in the substantial labour surplus group because of reduced sawmill operations. Reduced demand for farm help resulted in a moderate labour surplus in Wallaceburg, although the employment situation improved considerably during the month. There were still slight labour surpluses in 22 local areas by the end of May but employment is continuing to increase in most of these localities. Marked labour shortages have appeared in two areas, Ottawa and Fort Erie. There has been a shortage of aircraft workers and machinists in Fort Erie for several months. In Ottawa, at the end of May, there were shortages of sales personnel, farm hands, machinists, ore dressers and smelters, routemen, mechanics, and stenographers and secretaries.

PRAIRIE

Employment conditions in the Prairie provinces showed continued buoyancy during May. The seasonal upswing in retail trade was strengthened by the successful spring harvest, and heavier hog and cattle marketings were accompanied by greater employment in packing plants. Unemployment in the region as a whole dropped by roughly one-third during May to a level slightly lower than at the first of June last year, bringing labour demand and supply into approximate balance in almost all areas.

Building activity varied considerably over the region. Shortages of construction workers appeared in Regina, Moose Jaw, Flin Flon, The Pas, and Calgary. However, in spite of a sizable increase in the value of construction contract awards, the demand for construction workers was lower than last year. Job vacancies in construction listed with the National Employment Service were 26 per cent lower this year than last, and the number of shortage areas listed above suffers from comparison. At June 1, 1951 shortages of construction workers existed in 13 of the 18 areas of the region.

Demand for farm labour eased with the completion of spring work and no serious shortage is anticipated until harvest time. There was a steady demand for choremen in most areas of Saskatchewan and for sugar beet workers in Lethbridge. Wages offered for farm work were roughly \$25 per month higher than last year.

Job applications were less than 5 per cent of all wage and salary workers in all but two areas. A surplus of woods workers was evident in Port Arthur because virtually no cutting is taking place this summer. Pulpwood production has caught up with the demand, inventories are high, and a smaller scale of operations this fall is a distinct possibility. In Winnipeg, although the number of workers seeking jobs declined by 20 per cent during the month, surpluses occurred in the clothing and construction industries. However, most clothing workers were expected to be re-hired in June; despite the slow start in construction, a good season is anticipated. Shortages of welders, construction workers, garage mechanics and waitresses were evident in Regina. Meat packing firms and other manufacturing plants were operating a peak capacity, and a record year of residential construction is anticipated in this city.

PACIFIC

Unemployment in the Pacific region declined seasonally during May but remained at a higher level than in 1951.

Lumber mills were operating at capacity largely on orders from the United Kingdom, but because of increasing log inventories and uncertainty with respect to future business in overseas markets hiring in the logging industry lagged, leaving large numbers of skilled and unskilled workers idle. These retarding influences were accentuated by the dispute between management and labour which culminated in a strike by some 32,000 workers in the industry during June.

A slowdown in the rate of hiring in the construction industry is another primary reason for the higher level of unemployment this year. New projects for industry and private owners were apparently being held up pending the outcome of current negotiations between union and employers. Although the construction labour demand for out-of-town projects were becoming increasingly difficult to satisfy, the supply of skilled construction workers was more than adequate to meet the requirements in Vancouver, Victoria and other urban centres.

The effects of the retarded upswing in construction and logging, coupled with an increase in the summer movement of workers to British Columbia, has been only partly offset by increasing employment in the manufacture of plywood, pulp and paper, and shingles. Job applications listed with the National Employment Service, though 18 per cent lower than a month earlier, were 27 per cent higher than a year earlier. The number of male construction workers seeking jobs through the NES at the beginning of June was 2,000 greater than at June 1, 1951.

The seasonal reduction in the volume of surplus labour was evident in most areas. At the month's end, Prince George was the only remaining area with a substantial surplus labour supply, caused by a heavy inflow of transient and immigrant workers. It was expected that many of these workers would be absorbed in logging operations, which till now have been virtually

closed because of wet roads, in railway and road construction, in mining and in the expected extension of work on the Nechako damsite.

Five areas moved from labour surplus category to a position of approximate balance between labour demand and supply during the month. In three of these areas, Cranbrook, Penticton and Vernon, the re-opening of logging camps and spring work on fruit farms absorbed over one-half of the number that were registered for employment at the beginning of the month. In Prince Rupert the main demand stemmed from the opening of the halibut fishing season and the start of a 50-unit residential construction project; hirings for these industries were sufficient to offset some reduction in logging employment. Unemployment also declined in Victoria although the improvement was not as great as was expected earlier because of progressive lay-offs by shipyards and the impending strike action in the lumber, logging, and construction trades.

In Vancouver and New Westminster the number of job applications amounted to 7 per cent of all wage and salary workers. During the latter half of the month job opportunities declined in many industries not directly affected because of the unsettled conditions in the construction and logging industries. In addition, the inflow of people from other provinces is particularly noticeable in these cities.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

JUNE 1, 1952

The most noteworthy feature of the labour market scene during May was heightened activity in such seasonal activities as agriculture, construction, food processing, forestry and transportation. Revived activity in these industries reduced the number of localities across Canada with labour surpluses and resulted in fewer occupational categories appearing on the surplus list this month than last. At the same time, there was an increase in the number of specific skills in short supply. The following table shows the changing shortage-surplus picture:

	June 1 <u>1952</u>	May 1 <u>1952</u>	April <u>1952</u>	Oct. 1 <u>1951</u>
Number of areas with occupational shortages.....	46	46	30	73
Number of occupations with local shortages.....	29	22	19	23
Number of areas with occupational surpluses.....	125	148	168	44
Number of occupations with local surpluses.....	31	43	41	25

Surplus areas of loggers and bushmen dropped markedly to 45 compared with 70 at the beginning of May. The most pronounced changes during the month have been in Quebec and the Atlantic regions where 3,500 and 1,500 fewer loggers respectively were registered for work at National Employment Service offices. Surpluses of sawmill and planing mill workers also became less numerous, especially in the Atlantic region, as mills re-opened after the spring lull.

Shortages of loggers and bushmen, on the other hand, occurred in 9 local areas. This shows a considerable strengthening in the demand over the previous month, when there were no apparent shortages of this occupational category.

Skilled metalworkers became scarcer in most areas in which shortages were previously noted, and shortages developed in other areas during May. Skilled machinists, toolmakers, die setters, machine operators, structural iron and steel workers and welders and flame cutters, have been in short supply in some areas for several months and because of high standard qualifications needed in most of these skills it is expected these shortages will continue.

Automobile mechanics and repairmen were strongly in demand at June 1 in a growing number of areas and the demand is expected to become more widespread during the tourist season. Farm hands, although still in

strong demand in 14 local areas, appeared as a shortage occupation in 6 fewer localities than one month ago.

While carpenters and unskilled construction workers (which are among the occupations excluded from the surplus list because of space considerations) continue to appear as surplus occupations in a large number of local areas there were considerably fewer surplus areas than at May 1. Carpenters were available in relatively large numbers in 80 local areas at June 1 as against 129 at May 1, and surpluses of unskilled construction workers for the same dates appeared in 68 local areas compared with 96. Shortages of skilled and unskilled construction workers persisted in several areas of the Atlantic and Prairie regions.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES -- MALE

June 1, 1952.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>					
Moncton.....	40	—	Toronto.....	184	107
<u>Draftsmen</u>					
Moncton.....	14	—			
<u>Sales Personnel</u>					
Halifax.....	123	27	Ottawa.....	106	34
London.....	106	38	Winnipeg.....	174	121
<u>Service Occupations</u>					
Kentville.....	60	27	Regina.....	103	37
<u>Farm Hands</u>					
Charlottetown..	45	3	Stratford.....	52	1
Summerside.....	23	2	Brandon.....	30	5
St. Hyacinthe..	751	—	Moose Jaw.....	49	5
Brampton.....	42	1	North Battleford	29	—
Goderich.....	27	—	Swift Current...	50	—
Ottawa.....	204	—	Yorkton.....	44	1
Perth.....	52	—	Lethbridge.....	299	11

Local Occupational Shortages — Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>					
Liverpool.....	50	6	St. Georges		
Edmundston....	311	156	de Beauce...	374	40
Sussex.....	43	3	Timmins.....	84	15
Woodstock.....	57	-	Kenora.....	28	-
Gaspe.....	225	44	Edson.....	41	1
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>					
New Glasgow...	26	1	Oshawa.....	10	2
Hull.....	49	-	Ottawa.....	48	3
Montreal.....	156	125	Weston.....	58	2
Goderich.....	5	-	Windsor.....	153	33
Orillia.....	11	-	Winnipeg.....	17	13
<u>Structural Iron & Steel Workers</u>					
Levis.....	11	6	Sault Ste.Marie	14	1
St.Catharines.	9	-			
<u>Ore Dressers & Smelters</u>					
Ottawa.....	10	-			
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>					
Levis.....	106	6	Gananoque.....	6	-
Sorel.....	19	2	Prescott.....	10	-
Collingwood...	12	5	Regina.....	10	1
<u>Boilermakers</u>					
Galt.....	10	1			
<u>Aircraft Workers</u>					
Weston.....	15				
<u>Automobile Workers</u>					
Peterborough..	37	1			
<u>Miners</u>					
Edmonton.....	41	40			
Blairmore.....	39	1	Yellowknife....	27	-
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>					
Corner Brook..	23	1	Walkerton.....	12	-
Moncton.....	57	11			

Local Occupational Shortages — Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
			<u>Carpenters</u>		
Flin Flon.....	25	6	Moose Jaw.....	26	-
The Pas.....	30	4			
			<u>Plasterers</u>		
Moncton.....	47	1			
			<u>Plumbers & Steam Fitters</u>		
Moncton.....	57	8			
			<u>Routemen</u>		
Montreal.....	98	59	Toronto.....	61	23
Ottawa.....	62	5			
			<u>Mechanics & Repairmen</u>		
Moncton.....	112	14	Toronto.....	131	53
Montreal.....	72	39	Whitehorse....	21	2
Hamilton.....	23	6			
Ottawa.....	51	18			
			<u>Stationary Engineers & Firemen</u>		
Whitehorse.....	20				

UNSKILLED OCCUPATIONS IN:

			<u>Metalworking</u>		
Sudbury.....	67	10			
			<u>Transportation Equipment Mfg.</u>		
Fort William...	41	—			
			<u>Mining</u>		
Sudbury.....	116	—	Whitehorse....	36	2
			<u>Construction</u>		
Moncton.....	503	190	Moose Jaw.....	113	13
Sault Ste. Marie	94	37	Regina.....	41	14
The Pas.....	60	7	Calgary.....	69	14
			<u>Trade & Service</u>		
Calgary.....	142	34			

In determining the occupations and areas to be included in the foregoing table, National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers, first were examined. Where vacancies exceeded applications by fifty or more in any one occupational group, the occupation and area or areas affected were included in a preliminary listing. These data, however, tend to give a better picture of the supply side of the labour market than the demand side, for most job seekers find it to their advantage to use the facilities of the Employment Service when out of work because of the availability of unemployment insurance. There is not the same incentive for employers to list their job vacancies. Reference, therefore, is necessary to a variety of qualitative material, including reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by Local Employment office managers. This results in refinements to the preliminary list, in the process of which some occupations and areas may be deleted and others, for which the early statistical evidence was less conclusive, may be added.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SURPLUSES — MALE

June 1, 1952

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Farm Hands</u>					
Chandler.....	97	9	Kelowna.....	31	-
<u>Seamen</u>					
St. John's.....	297	-	Vancouver.....	148	8
<u>Primary Textile Workers</u>					
Drummondville...	99	-	St. Jerome.....	45	-
Granby.....	59	1	Shawinigan Falls	37	-
Montmagny.....	37	1	Sherbrooke.....	95	1
Montreal.....	133	8	Three Rivers....	69	-
St. Hyacinthe...	83	3	Valleyfield.....	96	-
St. Jean.....	32	-			
<u>Secondary Textile Workers</u>					
Montreal.....	894	36	Winnipeg.....	234	34
Toronto.....	651	7			

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>					
Corner Brook...	287	-	Port Alfred.....	103	-
Grand Falls....	434	-	Quebec.....	186	6
St. John's.....	380	-	Rimouski.....	319	183
Bridgewater....	48	1	Riviere du Loup.	676	40
New Glasgow....	31	-	Roberval.....	82	-
Springhill.....	60	6	Rouyn.....	122	-
Truro.....	51	-	Shawinigan Falls	74	-
Bathurst.....	575	-	Three Rivers....	357	7
Campbellton....	515	-	Pembroke.....	41	7
Minto.....	30	-	Fort William....	71	16
Moncton.....	158	15	Port Arthur.....	271	-
Causapscal.....	81	-	Chilliwack.....	37	-
Chandler.....	208	-	Gourtenay.....	35	2
Chicoutimi.....	36	6	Granbrook.....	32	4
Dolbeau.....	73	-	Duncan.....	46	6
Hull.....	337	18	Kamloops.....	36	1
La Malbaie....	403	15	Nanaimo.....	47	-
Levis.....	334	-	Nelson.....	51	3
Megantic.....	96	-	New Westminster.	111	-
Mont Laurier...	137	10	Prince George...	178	2
Montmagny.....	217	-	Prince Rupert...	32	-
Montreal.....	162	-	Vancouver.....	466	-
New Richmond...	171	50			
<u>Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers</u>					
Truro.....	27	-	Riviere du Loup.	40	4
Newcastle.....	26	-	St. Georges de		
Causapscal.....	59	-	Beauce.....	36	7
Matane.....	111		Prince George...	128	10
Rimouski.....	27		Trail.....	46	-
<u>Cabinetmakers & Woodworkers</u>					
Montreal.....	109		Toronto.....	143	6
Owen Sound.....	31				
<u>Pulp, Paper & Paper Goods Workers</u>					
St. Stephen....	25		St. Jerome.....	35	-
<u>Chemical, Petroleum & Coal Workers</u>					
Cornwall.....	76	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses -- Male (Concl'd)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
			<u>Boot & Shoe Workers</u>		
Montreal.....	129		Shawinigan Falls	46	-
Quebec.....	160				
			<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Makers</u>		
Vancouver.....	162	24			
			<u>Foundry Workers</u>		
Brantford.....	51	-	Oshawa.....	50	-
			<u>Electricians</u>		
Montreal.....	132	-	Nanaimo.....	137	-
			<u>Miners</u>		
Inverness.....	31	-	Rouyn.....	86	16
Minto.....	108				
			<u>Painters, Construction & Maintenance</u>		
St. John's.....	63	-	Toronto.....	139	7
Montreal.....	320	9	Vancouver.....	126	2
			<u>Plumbers & Steam Fitters</u>		
Montreal.....	351	23			

The foregoing table lists the areas in which there were, at June 1, 1952 excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male workers in skilled and semi-skilled occupations. The basis on which the table is built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is

The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was

over 100,000
50,000 to 100,000
25,000 to 50,000
under 25,000

100 or more
75 or more
50 or more
25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service offices. Clerical, sales and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e. g. foremen, apprentices).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS

(Preliminary Data)

Items	1952		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>					
Live Applications for jobs at NES.	May 29	224,825	- 27.5	+ 48.8	+ 31.7
Per cent of labour force.....	May 29	4.3	6.0x	3.0x	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	May 29	6.0	8.3x	4.2x	-
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C.....	May 1	218,055	- 31.9	+ 59.3	+ 35.9
Per cent of insured population..	May 1	6.8	10.0x	4.6x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	May 1	70.3	83.2x	62.9x	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$000).	April	13,254	- 21.5	+ 72.6	+ 48.0
Index of employment (1939 = 100)..<	April 1	177.8	- 0.1	+ 2.6	+ 3.1
Immigration.....	Dec./51	19,676	- 11.5	+ 178.7	163.0
<u>Earnings and Income</u>					
Total labour income (\$000,000)....	March	852	+ 0.7	+ 14.4	+ 14.6
Average weekly salaries & wages...	April 1	\$54.27	+ 0.6	+ 12.1	+ 11.6
Average hourly wages (mfg.).....	April 1	\$ 1.29	+ 0.9	+ 14.4	+ 15.2
Average hours worked per week(mfg.)	April 1	42.0	+ 0.7	- 1.0	- 2.1
Average weekly wages (mfg.).....	April 1	\$54.18	+ 1.7	+ 13.3	+ 12.8
Real weekly earnings(mfg.av.1946=100)	May 1	186.7	- 1.1	+ 2.6	+ 6.2
<u>Industrial Production</u>					
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	March	211.7	+ 1.7	- 2.5	- 2.5
Manufacturing.....	March	217.8	+ 2.0	- 4.4	- 4.6
Durables.....	March	264.8	+ 1.7	- 5.5	- 5.5
Non-durables.....	March	190.5	+ 2.4	- 3.5	- 3.9
<u>Industrial Relations</u>					
Strikes and lockouts - days lost...	April	178,605	+ 172.7	+1,651.2	471.1

(x) These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

C A N A D I A N

LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH BRANCH

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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Economics & Research Branch

Department of Labour

authorized by

Hon. Milton F. Gregg, V. C.
Minister

Arthur MacNamara, C. M. G.,
L. L. D., Deputy Minister.

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

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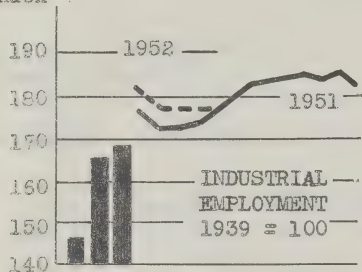
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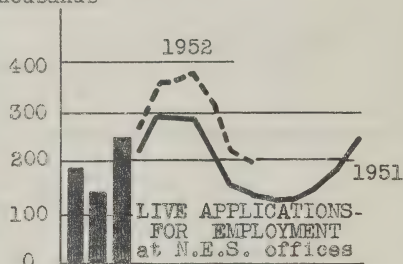
LABOUR MARKET TRENDS

Index



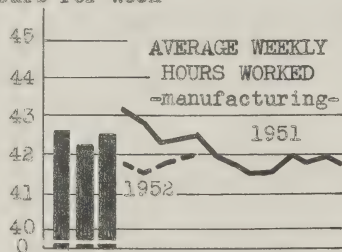
May 1, 1952.....	177.5
Feb. 1, 1952.....	177.8
Nov. 1, 1951.....	186.4
Aug. 1, 1951.....	184.3
May 1, 1951.....	175.6
May 1, 1950.....	159.7
May 1, 1948.....	157.4
May 1, 1946.....	142.8

Thousands



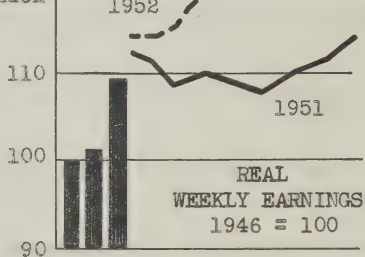
Jul. 1, 1952.....	196,260
May 1, 1952.....	310,228
Feb. 1, 1952.....	362,825
Nov. 1, 1951.....	155,508
Jul. 1, 1951.....	139,770
Jul. 1, 1950.....	204,571
Jul. 1, 1948.....	118,570
Jul. 1, 1946.....	176,735

Hours Per Week



May 1, 1952.....	42.0
Feb. 1, 1952.....	41.6
Nov. 1, 1951.....	41.8
Aug. 1, 1951.....	41.4
May 1, 1951.....	42.5
May 1, 1950.....	42.4
May 1, 1948.....	43.1
May 1, 1946.....	43.0

Index



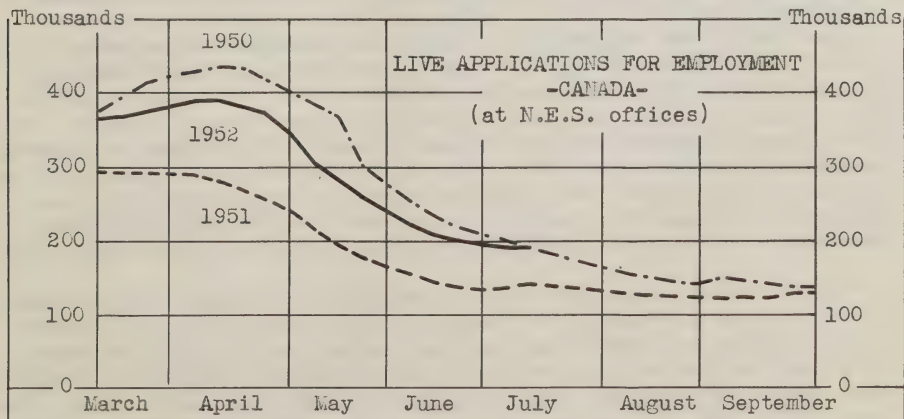
May 1, 1952.....	120.5
Feb. 1, 1952.....	114.6
Nov. 1, 1951.....	111.7
Aug. 1, 1951.....	108.0
May 1, 1951.....	110.3
May 1, 1950.....	109.6
May 1, 1948.....	104.0
May 1, 1946.....	100.5

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

The labour market in Canada currently reflects the quickening pace of summer activity, particularly in construction and resource development. At the same time there still remain sectors of slack employment, and the spreading impact of industrial disputes, both in this country and in the United States, is affecting current employment conditions.

Information from National Employment Service local offices for the week ending July 3 shows a total of 196,200 applications for employment on file. A comparison with the same period in 1951 and 1950 indicates that this figure is nearly 55,000 higher than at the same date in 1951, and, for the first time this year about 1,000 higher than at the same date in 1950.

Total applications for employment appear to be following the trend set in 1951 (see accompanying chart), although at a much higher level. Analysis of the situation in 1951 shows that there was already a tight labour market by early July, and that from then until the end of August (the low point for the year) a further decline of only about 14,000 applications occurred. In order to reach the same level again in 1952 a decline of nearly 70,000 applications would have to take place in July and August. In recent weeks, however, the same tapering-off has been taking place as occurred at the same time last year, and this raises the question as to whether the considerable gap between the number of applications on file in the summer of 1951 and those on file in July 1952 will be entirely eliminated. Comparison with 1950 figures on the other hand reveals some contrast, for although the absolute number of applications in 1950 was about the same as at present, the trend right through the summer months was more sharply downward.



There are a number of reasons for the apparent failure of the economy up to this time to absorb most of the workers registered for jobs, but certain major factors are particularly significant.

Firstly, the consumer goods industries, and allied plants, have found it difficult to recover from the low level of consumer demand of last fall and winter. Although consumer sales have been picking up recently, (department store sales for May and June were 9.8 per cent and 10.7 per cent above the same months in 1951) appreciable gains in employment have been confined mainly to the vehicles group. In other industries efforts have so far been directed largely to the reduction of inventories. In the primary textiles industry, as well as in the leather and rubber industries, the picture remains unfavourable, but the clothing industry has strengthened considerably. Recent slackness in demand for some pulp and paper products (excluding newsprint) has augmented the number of unemployed.

Secondly, those industries which customarily experience a seasonal upswing in employment are also finding some difficulty in reaching their customary high levels of activity. Agriculture is having a good year on the whole, but the present period is one where the early spring and summer activity is tapering off, and work will not speed up until the harvest season approaches. Logging employment is being cut back, and summer cutting will not nearly approach last year's level. This is reflected in an upswing in unplaced applicants in some local office areas. There are indications however, that a considerable number of loggers have found work either on the farms or in construction activity.

Construction in general appears to be picking up rather well, although still lagging considerably behind 1951 levels. Contracts awarded for the first six months of 1952 were nearly \$275,000,000 below the total for the same period in 1951, and housing starts decreased by 10 per cent during the first four months of this year. Non-residential construction may well pick up, since the mid-year investment survey carried out by the Department of Trade and Commerce now estimates total capital expenditures in 1952 on new construction, and machinery and equipment at \$5,181 million—four per cent above the estimate made at the beginning of the year, and 13 per cent above the 1951 total. It is significant, however, that a decrease of about 10 per cent is expected in housing construction. This means that the outlook for some building trades remains rather low in various parts of the country, although building continues at a rapid pace in those areas where the housing shortage is still acute, and where economic activity is generally high.

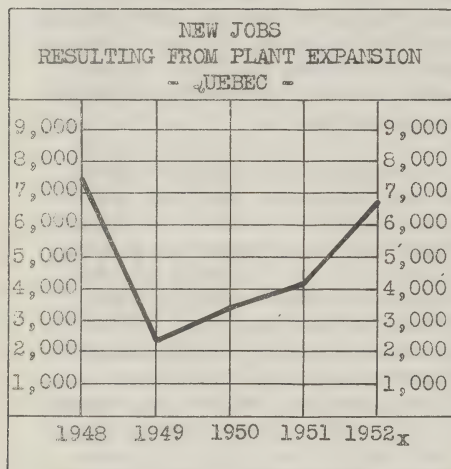
Thirdly, the influence of industrial disputes, both in Canada, and in the United States, has been much more accentuated than during 1951. In Canada, from January to June inclusive, 1,323,045 man-days were lost because of industrial disputes, compared with 227,927 during the same period in 1951. More than half of the time lost in June, the most since 1946, was caused by a strike involving 33,500 workers in

logging and lumbering in British Columbia. Two other strikes involving high time losses were those of cotton factory workers in Valleyfield and Montreal, and building trades workers in Halifax. Recently 3,000 building trades workers in British Columbia also went out on strike. Strikes in the construction sector not only slow down construction work but produce repercussions that affect activity in other industries as well. There is no doubt that these strikes have added substantially to the total number of job applications filed with the National Employment Service, since strikers are not precluded from registering for other work, and workers indirectly unemployed have registered both for employment and for unemployment insurance benefits.

Repercussions caused by the stoppage in the iron and steel industry in the United States, have not been felt too severely up to the present time, but if the strike is prolonged it could have much more serious consequences than the strikes now in progress in Canada itself. The only major lay-off reported to date as a result of the steel strike, has been the temporary release of about one thousand workers by General Motors in Oshawa, for a two-week period. So far most firms appear to be anxious to meet the problem by re-arranging holidays and engaging in short-time employment, but if the strike continues too long, more lay-offs may ensue, and the effect on economic activity in general could be serious.

All these factors help to explain the apparent levelling-off of employment in the Canadian economy at the present time. As the Department of Labour Employment Forecast Survey of May, 1952 points out, it now appears quite likely that although there is enough dynamic force in the economy to ensure that total employment will continue at a higher level than last year, the expansion in job opportunities apparently will not be sufficient to offset completely the growth in the labour force.

EFFECTS OF PLANT EXPANSION ON EMPLOYMENT IN QUEBEC, 1952



x Preliminary

some 25,000 workers has been required to staff new manufacturing plants and plant extensions.

The character of current industrial expansion, however, is quite different from that of previous postwar years. The larger proportion of this year's expansion of plant capacity is for the production of defence goods and capital equipment rather than for consumer goods and food products. The main impetus as far as employment is concerned has come from the building up of the aircraft industry in the Montreal area. In addition, there has been a marked increase in the production of metals, electrical apparatus and in some sections of the iron and steel industry. There has been some extension of plant capacity in textiles, in spite of deterioration of markets.

The following table shows plant completions and expected employment requirements by industry in the province of Quebec for the year 1952.

A survey of new plant construction in the province of Quebec discloses that with the opening of 65 plants which are to be completed by the end of 1952 about 6,700 permanent new jobs are becoming available. This employment estimate refers to secondary manufacturing industries only and does not include workers engaged on construction work or in any phase of the development of the primary industries and of hydro-electric power which is now going on.

This rate of employment increase resulting from industrial expansion compares favourably with the peak postwar year 1948, when the total number of new manufacturing jobs from this source was around the 7,000 mark. Over the past five years, a total of

Plant Completions and Expected Employment Requirements,
Quebec 1952.

Industry	No. of New Plants	Estimated Employment Requirements
Aircraft and parts.....	2	3,500
Chemicals.....	10	190
Electrical apparatus.....	6	850
Iron and steel.....	15	675
Non-ferrous metals.....	5	260
Non-metallic minerals.....	6	187
Pulp and paper.....	3	80
Petroleum.....	3	50
Rubber.....	1	150
Textiles.....	11	645
Wood products.....	3	135
Total.....	65	6,722

Nearly half the total number of jobs originating through new factory construction this year are in one plant, the Canadian Pratt and Whitney Ltd. aircraft engine plant in Montreal. This firm plans to employ a labour force of about 3,000 of whom half will be recruited before the year-end. The Sperry Gyroscope Co. of Canada Ltd., a second large parts manufacturer should get into production by the end of the year in a new plant now under construction. A total of about 500 employees will be needed at full production for the manufacture of aircraft navigational instruments.

The iron and steel industry, which ranks next to the textile industry as an employer of labour in the province, showed the largest number of plant expansions this year, with a total of fifteen new plants requiring 675 additional workers. The largest plant in this group, in terms of new employment, is the recently completed subsidiary of Webster and Horsfall, British wire rope manufacturers, who plan to employ several hundred workers in Three Rivers. Dominion Engineering Works are completing two additions, a foundry and a machine and gear shop, with a requirement of 125 additional employees. To expand production, of ferro-silicon, St. Lawrence Alloys and Metals Ltd. are adding two electric furnaces to their Beauharnois establishment, with manpower requirements set at 100.

In addition to this growth of the iron and steel industry, production of other metals is being increased and has resulted in the construction of several new factories. A total of 13 such plants requiring 450 people have been reported to date. Noranda Copper and Brass will add from 50 to 100 more workers to their establishment at Montreal East producing brass, bronze and copper products. Dominion Magnesium Ltd. will require 60 more workers to staff their Beauharnois plant.

Several new electrical apparatus plants in the province will get into production this year, with the majority to produce heavy electrical goods for industrial expansion or defence purposes. These include the Foxboro Co. (100 employees) to turn out industrial process control instruments at Montreal. Northern Electric Co. and Brown, Boveri Ltd. (hydro-electric equipment) will each take on a staff of 250. Expansion of Canadian General Electric and Westinghouse establishments in the province will employ 150 and 100 additional workers respectively.

Until 1952, the steady growth of the textile industry had provided the main single source of new employment. The slump in the industry in the past year has greatly cut down on new plant construction but in spite of this general slackness eleven new plants are scheduled to open this year, creating over 600 new jobs. At St. Jerome, the Tower Co., engaged chiefly on defence work, state that from 125 to 200 additional employees will be absorbed in two shifts. About 150 workers will be required by the Canadian Celanese Co. for the manufacture of artificial silk at Sorel. Mattawin Textiles at Grand'mere, a subsidiary of Canadian Cottons Ltd. plan to employ 100 in a new plant.

The above analysis is based on a mail survey of establishments reported building a plant or extending capacity and it is estimated that about 90 per cent of all new jobs created in this manner are covered in the survey. Replies were received from all large firms but in the case of smaller plants, as in the sawmill or clothing industry, it is probable that a large number were not heard from. In some cases, expansion was carried out to improve efficiency and no increase in employment took place.

NON-SEASONAL LAY-OFFS IN JUNE

Further lay-offs took place in the pulp and paper and primary textile industries during June. In addition, the steel strike in the United States and strikes in the lumbering and construction industries in British Columbia were causing a growing number of lay-offs early in July.

A serious problem confronting the manufacturing industry at the present time is shortage of steel and iron ore resulting from the United States steel strike. The automotive industry was one of the first to be affected by this shortage. In June, the Ford Motor Company placed production workers on a five-day week for one week, and early in July, before a one week annual paid holiday, General Motors at Oshawa released about 1,000 workers for a two-week period, subject to recall.

Additional lay-offs have taken place in the automobile industry for other reasons. The Brantford Coach & Body Company at Brantford, Ontario laid off 95 workers, the International Harvester Company truck division at Chatham 74 workers, the Canadian Auto Trim Manufacturing Company at Windsor 50 workers, and the Chrysler Corporation at Windsor 205 workers, all lay-offs being for indefinite periods.

The employment situation in paper products plants has continued to deteriorate as a further 500 workers were laid off. About 20 companies, involving a much larger number of workers, have their employees on short-time. A drop in demand in the pulp market both here and abroad, a decline in residential construction, and a continued slump in consumer durable goods industries have caused fairly heavy lay-offs in pulp mills, wallboard and fibreboard firms, and the containers industry. These lay-offs occurred chiefly in the east.

In the Maritimes, pulp mills at St. Stephen and Newcastle in New Brunswick were slack; one mill was on a four-day week and the mill at St. Stephen laid off 130 men. A fire at the Irving Pulp and Paper Company at Saint John, N. B. caused the temporary lay-off of about 140 workers.

In Quebec, the St. Regis Paper Company at Cap-de-la-Madeleine released 70 workers while the International Fibre Board Company and Masonite Company of Canada at Gatineau placed 320 and 220 workers respectively on short-time. In seven other centres in the province, pulp and fine paper plants were reported on short-time.

In Ontario, lay-offs in the pulp and paper industry included the release of 260 men for ten days from the sulphite division of the Abitibi Power and Paper Company plant at Sturgeon Falls, and the indefinite lay-off of 40 men from the St. Lawrence Corporation plant at Nipigon. Short-time work was prevalent in fine papers, and printing and lithographing firms.

A slackening in some sectors of the iron and steel industry resulted in further lay-offs during June. Three Toronto firms laid off 230 workers and other scattered lay-offs accounted for the release of a further 500 workers.

The strike of British Columbia woodworkers and construction workers in June has cut back normal seasonal hiring in manufacturing and construction, although no mass lay-offs have been reported to date because of the strikes.

Lay-offs in primary textile mills continued and the number of workers released in June was again fairly large. In addition to 800 reported lay-offs, many workers are on short-time. The total number of workers reported on short-time at the end of May in the province of Quebec was 12,311, an increase over March and April. These claims are the total for all industries but many of the workers involved were employed in primary textiles. At the end of May, workers reported on short-time in Ontario numbered 12,320. This figure was almost the same as for Quebec, but represented a decline from the previous two months.

The Goodyear Cotton Co. of Canada, and Penman's Co. Ltd. at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, released 450 workers for an indefinite period and placed an additional 650 workers on short-time. The Wabasso Cotton Co. at Three Rivers released 125 workers. Both these lay-offs reflect the heavy slump in cotton goods firms in recent months. Several Canadian Cottons Ltd. plants in the Maritimes have also been on short-time for several months.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

JULY 1, 1952

LABOUR MARKET AREAS	LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE	LABOUR SHORTAGE
	1*	2	3	4
Metropolitan	1(1)	2(3)	7(6)	
Major industrial	-(2)	12(14)	13(10)	2(1)
Major agricultural	-(1)	3(5)	10(7)	6(6)
Minor	7(11)	12(18)	43(35)	6(4)
TOTALS	8(15)	29(40)	73(58)	14(11)

Notes: Figures for the beginning of June are shown in brackets. *For definition see accompanying map.

Following an initial upsurge this spring, activity in Canada advanced more slowly during June, and the week-to-week drop in the number of jobless workers grew smaller. From a peak of 385,000 at the beginning of April, job applications registered with the National Employment Service decreased at the rate of about 20,000 a week for two months. This figure dropped to less than 6,000 during June as aggregate summer activities approached their peak. Job applications at all NES offices in the country amounted to 196,200 at July 3, representing 3.8 per cent of the labour force and 5 per cent of all wage and salary workers.

The slowdown in the rate at which unemployment in the country has been declining is the result of several factors. On the one hand, the labour supply received the annual addition of students, housewives and others who usually join the labour force for the summer months. On the other hand, the larger part of manpower requirements in such industries as agriculture and transportation has been satisfied and hiring is, in the main, for replacements only. In addition, the completion of pulpwood operations in the eastern provinces and the strike in British Columbia during the month released thousands of forestry workers.

A strong demand for labour continued in a number of activities. Large numbers of female workers were absorbed as the food processing industry approached its peak. Residential construction, though still well below last year's level, showed a distinct upswing in many areas and thousands of skilled and unskilled construction workers were required for defence construction projects in Labrador and northern Alberta. In manufacturing, the effects of reductions in excise taxes and the lifting of credit restrictions were apparent in the recall of workers in several industries. However, the paper products, leather products, clothing and textile industries were still operating well below the employment levels of a year ago.

The net result of these influences, summarized in the table above (see explanatory note on page 13), shows a progressive movement of almost all areas away from a condition of labour surplus toward balanced labour markets. This movement would have been greater than that shown in the table were it not for the increase in the number of idle workers in Vancouver - New Westminster and some minor areas in British Columbia.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS, JULY 1, 1952

	LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE	LABOUR SHORTAGE
	1	2	3	4
METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS	VANCOUVER - NEW WESTMINSTER	ST. JOHN'S QUEBEC	MONTREAL HAMILTON OTTAWA - HULL TORONTO WINGED CALGARY EDMONTON	
MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS		CORNER BROOK HALIFAX MONCTON SAINT JOHN ROUYN - VAL D'OR ST. HYACINTHE SHAWINIGAN FALLS THREE RIVERS BRANFORD OSHAWA ST. CATHARINES VICTORIA	NEW GLASSBORO STONEY SHERBROOKE GUELPH KINGSTON LONDON NIAGARA FALLS PETERBOROUGH SARNIA TIMMINS WELLAND WINDSOR PORT WILLIAM - PORT ARTHUR	KITCHENER - WATERLOO SUDBURY
MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS		LEVIS RIVIERE DU LOUP CORNWALL	CHARLOTTETOWN KEMPTON JOLIETTE THETFORD MINES SARNIA CHATHAM MOOSE JAW PRINCE ALBERT SASKATOON LETTERIDGE	BRANDON NORTH BATTLEFORD REGINA SHEPPARD RED DEER
MINOR AREAS	BATHURST CADAPASCAL CHANDLER DRUMMONDVILLE EDMONTON CHILLIWACK FRANCE GEORGE	CAMPBELLTON BUCKINGHAM FARNHAM GRANDY JONQUIS LA MALBAIE MONTMAGNY ST. GEO. DE BEAUCHE ST. JEROME ST. JOSEPH D'ALMA ST. THERESE VALLEYFIELD	GRAND FALLS SUMMERSIDE BRIDGEWATER TRURO YARMOUTH EDMONTON FREDRICKTON NEWCASTLE WOODSTOCK N.B. CHICOUTIMI LACRUITE MATAWAMBEAU ST. JEAN STE. ANNE DE BELLEVILLE SOREL VICTORIAVILLE BELLEVILLE BRANDENBURG BRANFORD PORT ERIE - PORT COLBORNE GALT INGERSOLL LEAMINGTON LINDSAY LIVONIA NORTH BAY OWEN SOUND PEMBROKE ST. THOMAS SAULT STE. MARIE SANDWICH STRATFORD TRENTON WALKERTON WOODSTOCK ONT. DAUPHIN PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE DUMFRIES KAMLOOPS PENTICTON FRANCEVILLE TRAIL VERMONT	GODERICH KIRKLAND LAKE KINROSS WETBURN MEDICINE HAT DAWSON CREEK

Note: For definitions of these categories, see accompanying map.

At the end of the month one metropolitan labour market area (Vancouver - New Westminster) and seven minor areas (four in Quebec and two in British Columbia) remained in the higher surplus category. Fourteen areas were in the labour shortage category, of which ten were located in the Prairie region. Twenty-nine areas were in the lower surplus category, and labour demand and supply were in approximate balance in seventy-three areas.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This month's issue of the Canadian Labour Market introduces a new table (opposite), a new map (following page) and some changes in the classification of areas. It is felt that regional labour conditions can be more meaningfully presented by distinguishing between local areas of different sizes and different economic activities. Consequently, labour market areas have been divided into four broad groups on the basis of the size of the labour force and the proportion of the labour force that is engaged in agriculture. The definition of these groups is as follows:

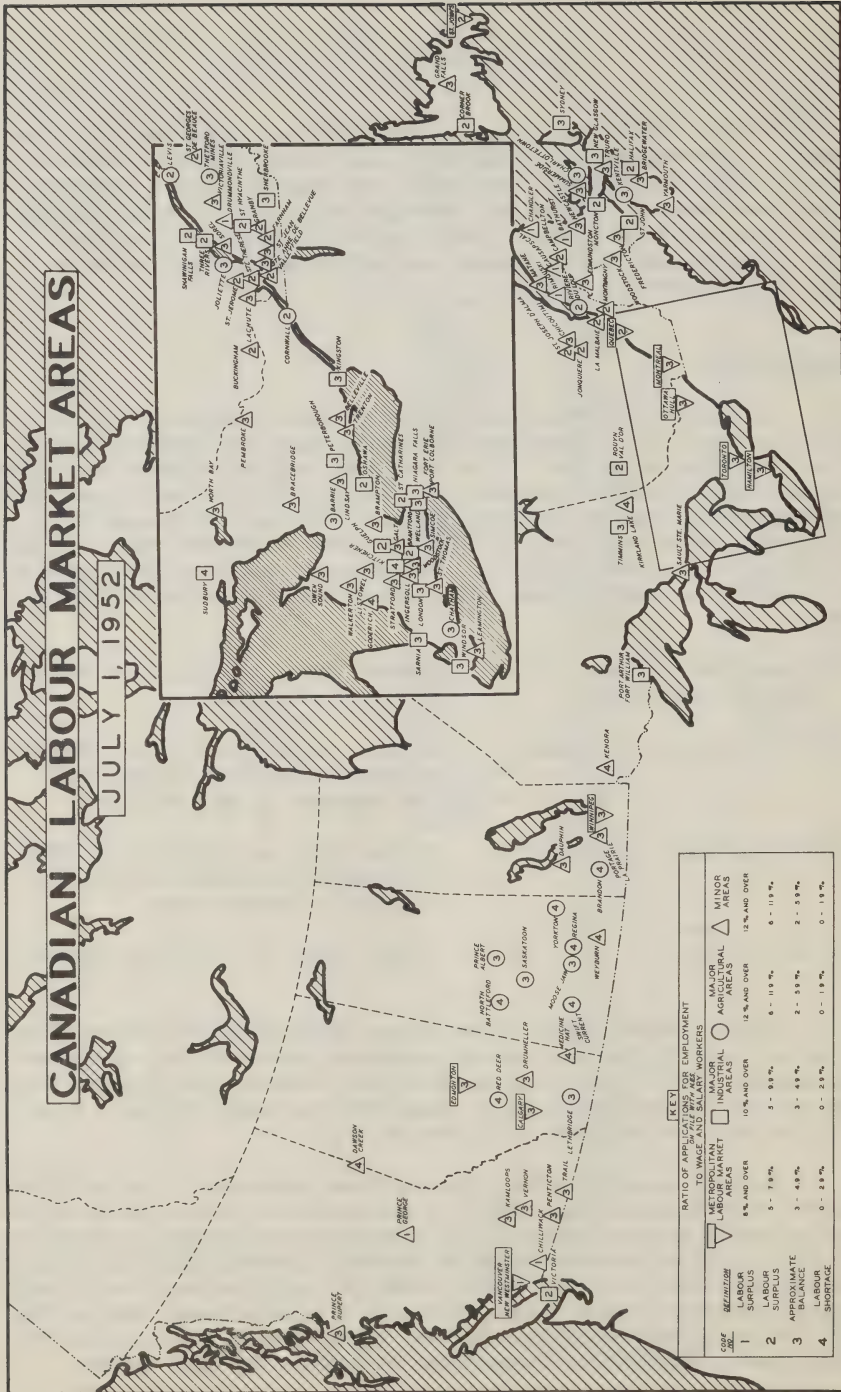
Metropolitan Labour Market Areas:	Labour force of 75,000 and over.
Major Industrial Areas:	Labour force of 25,000 to 75,000 of which less than 40 per cent are engaged in agriculture.
Major Agricultural Areas:	Labour force of 25,000 to 75,000 of which 40 per cent or more are engaged in agriculture.
Minor Areas:	Labour force of 10,000 to 25,000.

Labour conditions in these areas, which give a representative coverage of about 95 per cent of the country's labour force, are shown in the summary table (page 11), the detailed table on the opposite page, and the map on the following page. Areas with a labour force of less than 10,000 will be included at a later date.

The new classification also involves a change in the definition of labour conditions. A high ratio of unemployment to the labour force is more significant in a metropolitan area where employment is normally stable than it is in an area in which seasonal industries predominate. Experience has shown that the ratio of NES job applications to all wage and salary workers normally fluctuates over a greater range during the year in "major agricultural" and "minor" areas than it does in "metropolitan" areas. Similarly, a condition of labour shortage becomes

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

JULY 1, 1952



RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT TO WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS		KEY	
CODE	DESCRIPTION	REGULAR LABOUR SURPLUS	LABOUR SURPLUS
1	REGULAR LABOUR SURPLUS	8% AND OVER	10% AND OVER
2	LABOUR SURPLUS	5 - 7.9%	7 - 9.9%
3	ADEQUATE BALANCE	3 - 4.9%	5 - 6.9%
4	LABOUR SHORTAGE	0 - 2.9%	3 - 4.9%

apparent when this ratio is somewhat higher in larger areas than in smaller areas, because the "hard core" of unemployed generally forms a greater proportion of the labour force in a large area than it does in a small one. These considerations are reflected in the definitions of higher and lower degrees of labour surplus, approximate balance between labour supply and demand, and labour shortage, accompanying the map on the opposite page.

A T L A N T I C The number of job applications registered with the National Employment Service local offices in the Atlantic region declined to 23,600 during the month of June, the lowest figure for 1952 and only about 3,000 above the 1951 level for the same date. Applications decreased in most occupations with notable reductions of loggers, carpenters, taxi drivers and construction workers. Applications from female workers increased by approximately 600 chiefly in sales and stenographic occupations.

Metropolitan Areas. St. John's, Newfoundland, the only labour market area in this category in the Atlantic region had a labour surplus at the end of June, but there were 1,000 fewer unplaced applicants than at the corresponding date in 1951. The main surplus occupations were seamen, loggers, carpenters, truck drivers, unskilled construction workers and longshoremen. The surplus of construction workers would appear to be a temporary situation since it is expected that large numbers will be absorbed into military projects at Goose Bay and Newfoundland.

Major Industrial Areas. Two of the major industrial areas, namely, New Glasgow and Sydney had balanced labour markets. The remaining four areas—Corner Brook, Halifax, Moncton and Saint John—had labour surpluses. Both New Glasgow and Sydney showed sharp decreases in the number of job applications during June and applications in both of these areas were lower than the June totals last year. In the New Glasgow area the fishing, coal mining and manufacturing industries were reported busy. In the Sydney area, the forestry, mining and steel industries showed a high level of activity.

In Corner Brook, Moncton and Saint John, job applications declined considerably during June. Halifax, however, had a substantial increase, mainly because of the construction industry strike which brought activity to a standstill in that industry.

In Moncton, the somewhat reduced level of activity in several industries was more than offset by a strong demand for skilled craftsmen in the metalworking and construction trades and for unskilled construction workers. These men were required in large numbers by the Drake-Merritt Company for employment at Goose Bay, Labrador.

Major Agricultural Areas. The supply and demand for labour was in approximate balance in Charlottetown and Kentville at the end of June. The usual shortage of farm labour was reported from Charlottetown and in the Kentville area most industries appeared to be functioning at normal levels.

Minor Areas. Nine of the eleven areas in this group had a balanced labour market at the end of June, namely, Grand Falls, Summerside, Bridgewater, Truro, Yarmouth, Edmundston, Fredericton, Newcastle, and Woodstock. Labour surpluses existed in Campbellton and Bathurst. In all of these areas there were considerably fewer unplaced applicants at the end of June than there were a month earlier although the total was still considerably higher than for the corresponding date in 1951. Agricultural operations in the mining areas were generally retarded by unusually wet weather. The completion of the spring logging drive left large surpluses of loggers and bushmen in Grand Falls, Campbellton, and Bathurst. Fishing was fairly active in Summerside, Bridgewater, Newcastle, Campbellton and Bathurst. Employment in manufacturing industries was maintained at a reasonably high level except in Yarmouth, where the cotton mill continued to operate part time and in Newcastle, where the pulp mill changed to a four-day week. Surpluses of carpenters were apparent in many areas but it is probable that a large number of these workers will find employment at the Goose Bay project for which labour is now being recruited at several centres in the Maritime Provinces.

QUEBEC

June was a month of continuing improvement in the employment situation in the Quebec region. During the month, job applicants registered with offices of the National Employment Service declined by 20,500 to a new low for 1952 of 61,500. The total at the beginning of July, 1951 was 39,000.

Among males, the decrease in applicants was general in almost all occupations. It was particularly noticeable in construction and forestry occupations, taxi and truck driving, and various unskilled occupations. A large number of bush workers have returned to the farms for the summer and this has increased the labour force available for agricultural purposes. The only noticeable exception to this general improvement was mining, where the number of unplaced applicants increased. The increase was largely made up of unskilled men who are not being absorbed due to the presence of experienced immigrant miners.

In the case of women, the picture was quite different. The total decrease for the month, in applications by women, was less than 500. The number of applications increased substantially in clerical and other office occupations and in secondary textile and leather and leather products manufacturing. These increases were offset by sizeable improvements in service occupations and in rubber goods manufacturing.

Metropolitan Areas. At the end of June, the labour market in Montreal was balanced and economic activity was generally at a high and rising level. The number of short-time claimants fell during the month. Demand for experienced machinists, welders, tool and die makers, upholsterers and leather cutters, lasters, assemblers and fancy stitchers

could not be met in full. The United States steel strike had had little effect by the end of June but shutdowns were forecast for some firms if the strike was not ended soon. The favourable effect of reductions in excise taxes and the lifting of credit restrictions became noticeable in June. Sales of furniture and other consumer durables such as automobiles and electrical appliances were reported to be much brisker. Cigarette and electrical appliance manufacturers were recalling some of their laid off workers. In textiles and clothing manufacturing, however, the situation is spotty and defence orders are playing a large part in sustaining these industries at the present time.

The Quebec local office area had a labour surplus in June as a result of reduced summer cutting in the bush, reduced activity in textile products and a sharp reduction in residential construction, compared with the previous year. Otherwise, the situation appears to be very similar in these two metropolitan areas.

Major Industrial Areas. Of the five local areas in this classification, four had labour surpluses and the fifth, Sherbrooke, had a balanced labour market at the end of June. The relatively favourable position of the latter seems to be due to a fairly large program of major construction jobs. In the other four areas, Rouyn - Val d'Or, St. Hyacinthe, Shawinigan Falls and Three Rivers, the amount of labour available is considerably greater than it was a year ago. This is due to factors already mentioned, namely, immigration of miners, reduced summer cutting in the woods, reduced construction activity and reduced operations in textile manufacturing. Three Rivers has also been adversely affected by the slump in markets for pulp and paper products (excluding newsprint) and at Shawinigan Falls a chemical manufacturer has reduced operations and laid off some men. Scattered reductions took place in the production of textile products, partly due to textile strikes elsewhere in this region. Other types of industry were reported to be in good condition in these areas.

Major Agricultural Areas. Of the four areas in this group, two, Joliette and Thetford Mines, have a balanced labour market and the other two, Levis and Riviere-du-Loup, are in the labour surplus category. The last named has been adversely affected by wet weather which has delayed seeding, reduced sawmilling by impeding road haulage of logs, and has reduced retail trade. At Levis also, rain has reduced agricultural activity but there has been considerable demand for woodsmen, and shipbuilding and construction are quite active there. At Thetford Mines, the recent rains had a beneficial effect on crops. Asbestos mines and sawmills are operating at capacity and most construction workers were employed.

Minor Areas. Of the 22 minor labour market areas in this region, seven were in approximate balance and 15 showed a surplus of labour in June. Of the latter 15, the most severely affected were Causapsca, Chandler, Drummondville and Rimouski. With the exception of Drummondville, these areas are largely dependent on primary industries,

especially logging, lumbering and related activities. Wet weather has impeded agriculture and sawmill operations for reasons already mentioned. Storms have interfered with lobster fishing. Growth of crops has been slowed and, in addition, this year's program of summer cutting has been reduced due to high wood inventories.

At Drummondville three textile products firms closed their doors for an indefinite period, and others are working only part-time. Lay-offs were general there in both textiles and pulp and paper products.

ONTARIO Applications for employment in Ontario registered with the National Employment Service were reduced during June from 64,600 to 58,700 and declined a further 3,000 during the week ending July 3. The total at July 3 (55,700) was still 15,200 higher than registrations at the same date last year but was 8,200 below the 1950 total. Of the 41 local office areas listed in Ontario, 33 have approximately balanced labour markets; 2 major industrial areas have labour shortages; and one major agricultural and 3 major industrial areas have some labour surplus.

Metropolitan Areas. There was little change during June and the early part of July in registrations for employment with the National Employment Service offices in the three Ontario metropolitan areas—Hamilton, Toronto, and Ottawa - Hull. Job applications, slightly higher in these areas than they were in 1951, are still less than 5 per cent of the wage and salary workers in each of the three areas. The food processing industries have absorbed a large number of workers in Hamilton and Toronto as the fruit canning industry approaches its summer peak. Although construction activity has increased substantially in Hamilton and Ottawa during the past few weeks there is still an adequate supply of building trades workers available locally. In Toronto building is continuing below the high level of activity last year. There are shortages of machinists, toolmakers, qualified stenographers, and junior clerical staff for permanent employment in Ottawa but the slackness in the pulp and paper industry has kept registrations in Hull higher than in the past two years.

Major Industrial Areas. Employment in the major industrial areas has increased substantially over the past month. The paper products, clothing, and leather products industries are still producing at a low rate but increases in employment in the electrical goods, automobile, rubber products, furniture and food processing industries have more than taken up the slack. The United States steel strike and consequent iron and steel shortages have not yet had much effect on Canadian industries but there has been some slowing down in automobile production, and further cut-backs in production in iron and steel industries are expected during July. Slight labour surpluses have resulted from these cut-backs in automobile and machinery manufacturing in Oshawa and Brantford. The high number of registrations in St. Catharines consists chiefly of additions to the labour force from other areas and from the registration of high school

students, who are finding employment opportunities scarcer this year than last. Increases in employment in the brewing, meat packing, fruit and vegetable canning, furniture and radio manufacturing industries have caused a tight labour market in the Kitchener - Waterloo area. In Sudbury where there are very few applicants for employment there is a strong demand for miners, metalworkers and construction workers.

Major Agricultural Areas. Favourable crop conditions this year have made a heavy demand for farm labour. About 340 workers were brought into Ontario from the Maritimes and about 75 from the Prairie provinces during June and the first two weeks in July to help relieve this shortage. Labour is in fairly good supply in Barrie and Chatham although not many registrants are on the application file. The heavy demand for farm labour in Cornwall has not been able to absorb the workers unemployed because of the depressed condition of the textile industry and the low level of construction in the area.

Minor Areas. The majority of minor local office areas have few labour shortages or surpluses with 19 of the 21 areas listed having approximately balanced labour markets. Fort Erie has changed from a labour shortage area to an area of approximate labour balance during the past month because of changes in scheduling of aircraft production, which necessitated some lay-offs and reduced employment. Goderich and Kirkland Lake, on the other hand, have developed labour shortages during the same period. The heavy demand for food processors, agricultural, construction and summer resort workers have not been filled in those areas. The movement of drillers to Labrador, Vancouver and Yellow Knife has resulted in shortages of miners in Kirkland Lake.

PRAIRIE The high level of activity generated by the additional agricultural work this spring continued during June. Little change occurred in the overall demand for labour, although there was a noticeable shift in emphasis from agriculture to construction. Construction programs, which were lagging earlier this year in many centres, are now fully underway. Labour requirements have been noticeably greater this year in the meat packing and transportation industries.

Total job registrations on file with National Employment Service offices in the region fell slightly to 19,800 at the end of the month. Although this total is about 2,000 greater than at the comparable date last year, it represents 2 per cent of the labour force of the region and less than 4 per cent of all wage and salary workers.

Metropolitan Areas. Conditions in the three metropolitan areas of the region indicated an approximate balance between labour demand and supply. Unemployment in Winnipeg declined during June as a result of an upswing in residential construction and the impetus given to packing

plants by the lifting of the Provincial Government embargo on livestock. Demands for labour were heavy in both Calgary and Edmonton as activity in industrial, defence, residential and pipeline construction approached its peak. Nevertheless, an influx of workers, particularly from industries on strike in British Columbia, has caused an increase in the number of workers seeking employment in these centres.

Major Industrial Areas. The Fort William - Port Arthur area was in the "balanced" category at the end of June. Furthermore, shipbuilding, aircraft manufacturing and water and rail transportation continued to absorb an increasing number of workers, but a sharp reduction in summer pulp-cutting operations has left a number of woodworkers unemployed. Moreover, the high levels of log inventories and the reduced demand for pulp indicate that the pulp-cutting program for the coming winter may be as much as fifty per cent smaller than it was in 1951.

Major Agricultural Areas and Minor Areas. A condition of labour shortage was apparent in 10 of the combined total of 17 major agricultural and minor areas. Agricultural requirements have eased since spring, but the steady flow of manpower into other activities, especially the defence construction projects in the northern parts of the region, has resulted in a steady demand for the remaining farm labour supply. The organized movement of farm workers for the Ontario hay harvest began in early June, but the number of workers transferred has been small because job opportunities are plentiful in western Canada and wages for farm labour are higher.

PACIFIC For the past few months the employment situation in the Pacific region, though seasonally improving, has been less buoyant than it was in 1951. Hiring in the logging industry has been retarded because of the uncertain overseas market for lumber, and union-management contract negotiations have had an unsettling effect on the general level of business activity. A number of construction projects have been delayed pending the outcome of the disputes.

The situation deteriorated rapidly following the strike of logging, lumbering and construction workers in June. The strike of over 30,000 men closed the entire logging and lumbering industry on Vancouver Island and the mainland coast. Inland lumber operators, employing about 6,000 workers, were not affected by the strike since their present contract does not expire until the first of September. Pulp and paper manufacturing operations were also unaffected, and most firms have a sufficient supply of logs on hand for July.

Strikes of construction workers have been reported from Vancouver, New Westminster, Victoria and several smaller centres on Vancouver Island. In all, only about 3,000 tradesmen, chiefly carpenters and painters, are involved, but a large number of construction projects have been picketed and many other workers have been made idle. Activities indirectly affected

by both strikes include all types of transportation, machinery repair and the manufacturing of construction supplies.

The impact of the strike is reflected in the number of job applications from people seeking work through the National Employment Service. Though the actual striking workers are not eligible for unemployment insurance, many have registered for other work. Workers indirectly unemployed have registered for both employment and unemployment insurance benefits. Job applications for the region, after declining slowly early in June, increased at the rate of more than 2,000 per week, bringing the total to 33,400 at the beginning of July. This total is 60 per cent higher than it was at the comparable date a year ago.

Vancouver - New Westminster, Victoria and two minor areas were in the labour surplus category at the beginning of July. In the Vancouver - New Westminster metropolitan area, job applications increased from 17,300 to 20,600 but estimates of the number of workers affected by the strike have run as high as 25,000. Bright spots in the employment picture are the heavy berry crop, which absorbed between three and four thousand workers, the upswing in fishing and fish processing employment and the continued expansion of out-of-town construction projects. Transfer of men to the Aluminum Company project in the northern part of the province has increased to about 350 a week.

The major industrial area of Victoria, also recorded a rise in unemployment although the increase in this city was less marked. A contributing factor to the lower level of activity has been the progressive lay-off of workers at H. M. C. Dockyard. This was caused by the completion of refitting work and shortage of materials for ships under construction. At Prince George and Chilliwack, the two minor areas in the surplus category, labour surpluses have been caused by the heavy movement of loggers away from the strikebound areas. A high level of logging and construction activity was maintained during the month at most inland centres.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

JULY 1, 1952

During the month of June the number of labour market areas with occupational shortages of male workers increased from 46 to 49, while the number of surplus areas decreased from 125 to 99. There was no significant change in the number of occupations in short supply or with local surpluses of workers. The following table gives comparative labour market statistics for shortages and surpluses of male workers during selected months:

	July 1 <u>1952</u>	June 1 <u>1952</u>	May 1 <u>1952</u>	March 1 <u>1952</u>	Oct. 1 <u>1951</u>
<u>Number of Areas with:</u>					
Occupational Shortages.....	49	46	46	22	73
Occupational Surpluses.....	99	125	148	164	44

The most significant change in the labour shortage situation since June 1 has occurred in the Moncton area where recruiting is in progress for skilled and unskilled workers for employment at Goose Bay, Labrador. The Drake Merritt Company now has 2,500 men working there, and 1,500 more are required. This has resulted in strong new demands for welders and flame cutters, carpenters, sheet metal workers, electricians, and blasters, powdermen and drillers. In addition, there has been a sharp increase in the demand for bricklayers and tile setters, plumbers and steam fitters, and auto mechanics. A heavy demand also continues for unskilled construction workers for this project.

There are skilled labour shortages in several areas for engineers, draftsmen, machinists, structural iron and steel workers, ore dressers, welders and flame cutters, boilermakers, miners, bricklayers and tile setters, carpenters, and stationary engineers and firemen. Shortages of unskilled labour also exist for metal workers, transportation and equipment workers, miners, and construction workers.

The principal categories of female workers in short supply are waitresses and domestic and personal service workers.

The main changes in June in the surplus skilled labour situation were the decreases in the number of areas with surpluses of loggers and bushmen, and carpenters. The former declined from 45 to 28 areas, and the latter from 80 to 53 areas. In the case of loggers and bushmen, most of the 28 areas show a marked decline in the extent of the surplus which existed in these areas on June 1. In regard to the west Coast however, the surplus situation for loggers and bushmen has deteriorated considerably, due to the strike in the logging industry. With respect to surplus carpenters, there was a substantial decrease in numbers in most areas other than

Halifax, Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria. In these areas there were significant increases due to strikes and lockouts.

Other skilled labour surpluses exist in several areas for saw-mill and planing mill workers, machinists, toolmakers and die makers, electricians, miners, painters, plumbers and steam fitters, and draftsmen.

The most important changes in the surplus unskilled labour situation were for lumber workers and construction workers (excluded from the surplus list which follows, owing to space considerations). The number of surplus areas for these two occupations declined, respectively, from 27 to 18 and from 68 to 58. In regard to lumber workers, there has been a generally sharp decrease in the number of surplus workers in most areas other than Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria, where increases have occurred because of strikes in the logging industry. The number of surplus construction workers, too, has declined in nearly all areas except Halifax, Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES - MALE
(July 1, 1952)

In determining the occupations and areas to be included in the following table, National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers, and applications filed by job seekers, first were examined. Where vacancies exceeded applications by fifty or more in any one occupational group, the occupation and area or areas affected were included in a preliminary listing. These data, however, tend to give a better picture of the supply side of the labour market than the demand side, for job seekers covered by unemployment insurance find it to their advantage to use the facilities of the Employment Service when out of work because of the availability of unemployment benefits. There is not the same incentive for employers to list their job vacancies. Reference, therefore, is necessary to a variety of qualitative material, including reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by Local Employment office managers. This results in refinements to the preliminary list, in the process of which some occupations and areas may be deleted and others, for which the early statistical evidence was less conclusive, may be added.

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)

	<u>Vacancies</u> <u>Listed</u>	<u>Applications</u> <u>Listed</u>		<u>Vacancies</u> <u>Listed</u>	<u>Applications</u> <u>Listed</u>
<u>Draftsmen</u>			<u>Loggers & Bushmen (cont'd)</u>		
Moncton	14	3	Val d'Or	118	9
			Kirkland Lake	30	5
<u>Sales Personnel</u>			Kenora	25	-
			The Pas	50	-
Halifax	71	23			
Winnipeg	162	92	<u>Machinists, Toolmakers</u> <u>& Die Setters</u>		
<u>Service Workers</u>			Halifax	22	11
Halifax	40	15	New Glasgow	22	-
Edmonton	95	21	Hull	48	2
			Sorel	197	9
<u>Farm Workers</u>			Ottawa	61	1
			Orillia	11	-
Charlottetown	39	4	Weston	61	-
St. Hyacinthe	323	-	Windsor	72	27
Barrie	39	2			
Belleville	29	-	<u>Sheet Metal Workers</u>		
Brampton	49	-			
Cornwall	33	2	Moncton	46	5
Goderich	47	-			
Listowel	31	2	<u>Ore Dressers</u>		
London	57	13			
Ottawa	234	-	Ottawa	10	-
Perth	38	-			
Renfrew	75	-	<u>Structural Iron</u> <u>& Steel Workers</u>		
Stratford	56	-			
Moose Jaw	60	9	Levis	10	3
Swift Current	35	1	St. Catharines	9	-
Yorkton	54	1	Sault Ste. Marie	10	1
Lethbridge	196	10			
<u>Loggers and Bushmen</u>			<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>		
Edmunston	57	7	Halifax	28	19
Fredericton	69	11	Moncton	41	2
Sussex	60	4	Levis	116	1
Woodstock	93	-	Sorel	48	5
Chicoutimi	276	9	Gananoque	6	-
Gaspe	179	18	Prescott	9	-
Matane	100	4	Regina	10	2
St. Georges de Beauce	345	13			

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)

	<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>		<u>Vacancies Listed</u>	<u>Applications Listed</u>
<u>Boilermakers</u>			<u>Plumbers & Steamfitters</u>		
Galt	9	-	Moncton	141	7
<u>Stationary Engineers</u>			<u>Carpenters</u>		
Whitehorse	15	-	Moncton	134	92
<u>Mechanics & Repairmen</u>			Goderich	44	1
Moncton	113	11	Whitehorse	32	-
Ottawa	56	11	<u>UNSKILLED OCCUPATIONS</u>		
<u>Blasters, Powdermen & Drillers</u>			<u>Transportation & Equipment Manufacturing</u>		
Moncton	47	1	Fort William	26	-
<u>Electricians</u>			<u>Metalworking</u>		
Moncton	38	8	Sudbury	64	4
<u>Miners</u>			<u>Miners</u>		
Blairmore	35	-	Sudbury	134	-
Yellowknife	59	1	Yellowknife	44	-
<u>Bricklayers & Tile Setters</u>			<u>Construction Workers</u>		
Moncton	107	2	Fredericton	38	6
Corner Brook	21	-	Moncton	326	17
			Goderich	31	-
			Sault Ste. Marie	109	29

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES - FEMALE

<u>Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists</u>			<u>Waitresses</u>		
Edmonton	122	79	Montreal	247	186
<u>Cooks & Chefs</u>			Kenora	27	2
Calgary	48	8	Brandon	46	2
			Regina	61	4
			Calgary	104	36
			Edmonton	97	23

Local Occupational Shortages - Female (Cont'd)

	<u>Vacancies</u> <u>Listed</u>	<u>Applications</u> <u>Listed</u>		<u>Vacancies</u> <u>Listed</u>	<u>Applications</u> <u>Listed</u>
<u>Farm & Harvest Hands</u>			<u>Domestic & Personal Service</u> <u>Workers</u>		
New Westminster	247	-	Levis	51	18
<u>Food & Tobacco Workers</u>			Montreal	516	161
			Quebec	178	218
Charlottetown	86	25	Hamilton	91	54
<u>Secondary Textile Workers</u>			Kingston	45	17
			London	231	160
Welland	48	19	Ottawa	239	115
<u>Domestic & Personal Service</u> <u>Workers</u>			Toronto	361	242
			Brandon	73	15
Charlottetown	95	40	Winnipeg	335	175
Halifax	156	44	Moose Jaw	49	25
Saint John	55	14	Regina	101	28
Chicoutimi	83	12	Saskatoon	103	44
Jonquiere	83	20	Calgary	239	71
			Edmonton	292	72
			Edson	32	5
			Red Deer	38	8

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SURPLUSES - MALE
(July 1, 1952)

The following table lists the areas in which there were, at July 1, 1952, excesses of job applications over job vacancies for male workers in skilled and semi-skilled occupations. The basis on which the table was built up is as follows:

If the number of wage and salary workers in the area is

The area was listed if the excess of applications over vacancies was

over 100,000

100 or more

50,000 to 100,000

75 or more

25,000 to 50,000

50 or more

under 25,000

25 or more

The table was then adjusted on the basis of other information, including reports from local Employment Service offices. Clerical, sales and service occupations were not included and certain other occupational groups were excluded because they are not specific (e.g. foremen, apprentices, other unskilled workers).

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

	<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>		<u>Appli- cations Listed</u>	<u>Vacan- cies Listed</u>
<u>Engineers</u>			<u>Loggers & Bushmen (cont'd)</u>		
Montreal	263	159	Megantic	25	-
<u>Draftsmen</u>			Montmagny	66	-
Montreal	170	23	New Richmond	100	47
Toronto	147	28	Riviere du Loup	231	4
<u>Farm Hands</u>			Rouyn	58	-
Yarmouth	53	-	Three Rivers	142	-
Kelowna	33	-	Port Arthur	134	20
<u>Primary Textile Workers</u>			Chilliwack	101	1
Drummondville	120	-	Courtenay	98	-
Granby	67	-	Duncan	80	-
Montreal	120	8	Nanaimo	102	-
St. Hyacinthe	87	2	New Westminster	195	-
St. Jerome	37	-	Port Alberni	33	-
Three Rivers	63	-	Prince George	118	8
Valleyfield	101	-	Prince Rupert	41	-
Carleton Place	43	-	Vancouver	61	4
<u>Secondary Textile Workers</u>			<u>Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers</u>		
Montreal	835	41	Causapscal	40	1
Toronto	604	12	Matane	27	1
Winnipeg	131	29	Chilliwack	27	-
<u>Loggers & Bushmen</u>			New Westminster	60	-
Corner Brook	298	85	Prince George	79	13
Grand Falls	248	-	Vancouver	269	-
St. John's	195	-	<u>Cabinet Makers & Woodworkers</u>		
Bridgewater	33	-	Toronto	138	17
Bathurst	303	-	<u>Pulp, Paper & Paper Goods Workers</u>		
Campbellton	269	-	Asbestos	40	-
Moncton	68	3	Cornwall	89	3
Causapscal	87	2	<u>Chemical, Petroleum & Coal Workers</u>		
Chandler	147	-	Cornwall	47	-
Hull	140	-	<u>Rubber Goods Workers</u>		
La Malbaie	150	-	Quebec	124	2
Levis	111	-			

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Cont'd)

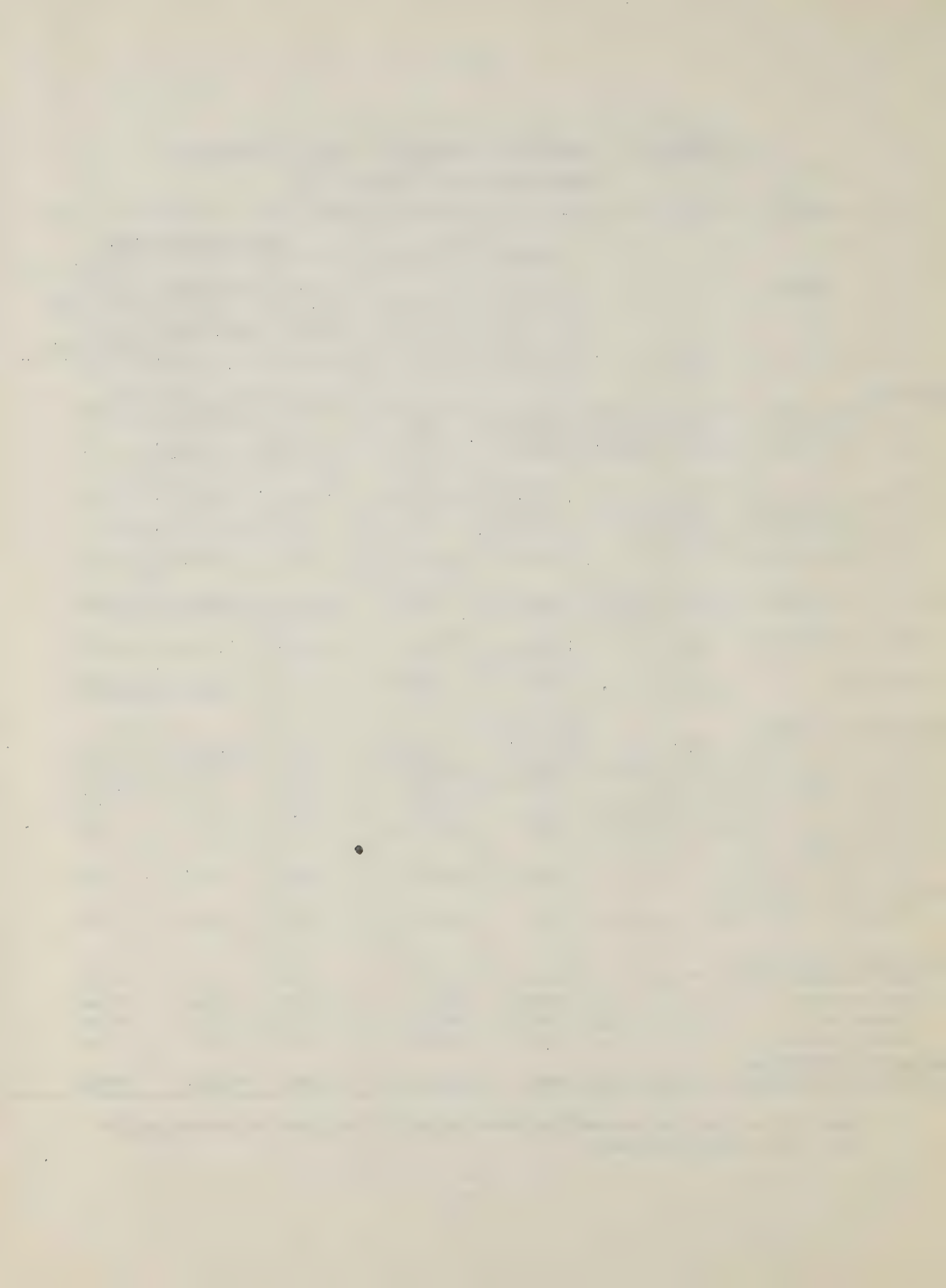
	Appli- cations <u>Listed</u>	Vacan- cies <u>Listed</u>		Appli- cations <u>Listed</u>	Vacan- cies <u>Listed</u>
<u>Boot & Shoe Workers</u>			<u>Miners</u>		
St. Georges de			Inverness	48	-
Beauce	70	-	Minto	156	55
Shawinigan Falls	68	-	Chandler	149	-
Sherbrooke	88	-	Rouyn	48	7
			Drumheller	34	7
<u>Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters</u>			<u>Painters, Construction & Maintenance</u>		
New Westminster	74	-	Halifax	79	-
Vancouver	220	21	Montreal	168	21
			Toronto	119	10
<u>Foundry Workers</u>			Vancouver	176	2
Brantford	36	-			
<u>Welders & Flame Cutters</u>			<u>Plumbers & Steam Fitters</u>		
Vancouver	150	2	Montreal	240	-
			Vancouver	176	1
<u>Electricians</u>			<u>Cranemen & Shovelmen</u>		
Montreal	130	2	Vancouver	113	5
New Westminster	65	-			
Vancouver	177	1			
Victoria	58	1			

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS

(PRELIMINARY DATA)

Items	1952		Percentage Change		
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year	To Date From Same Period Last Year
Manpower					
Live Applications for jobs at NES.	July 3	196,260	- 12.7	+40.4	+32.6
Per cent of labour force.....	July 3	3.8	4.3x	2.7x	-
Per cent of paid workers.....	July 3	5.3	6.0x	3.8x	-
Claimants for benefit, U. I. C. ..	June 1	143,490	- 34.2	+61.4	+37.9
Per cent of insured population...	June 1	4.5	6.8x	3.0x	-
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	June 1	63.8	70.3	58.8	-
Amount of benefit payments (\$000).	May	10,374	- 21.7	+83.3	+52.4
Index of employment (1939 = 100)...	May 1	177.4	- 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 2.7
Immigration.....	May	19,848	+ 1.8	- 2.0	+36.0
Earnings and Income					
Total labour income (\$000,000)....	April	854	+ 0.2	+11.9	+13.9
Average weekly salaries & wages...	May 1	\$54.30	0.0	+10.4	+11.4
Average hourly earnings (mfg.)....	May 1	\$ 1.29	+ 0.3	+13.4	+14.8
Average hours worked per week(mfg.)	May 1	42.0	- 0.2	- 1.2	- 1.9
Average weekly earnings (mfg.)....	May 1	\$54.35	+ 0.1	+12.1	+12.7
Cost-of-living index (Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	June 1	187.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.7	+ 5.5
Real weekly earnings (mfg. av. 1946 = 100).....	May 1	120.5	+ 1.2	+ 9.2	+ 6.1
Industrial Production					
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	April	213.9	+ 1.1	- 2.0	- 2.4
Manufacturing.....	April	220.2	+ 0.8	- 3.6	- 4.3
Durables.....	April	265.7	- 0.6	- 4.6	- 5.0
Non-durables.....	April	193.8	+ 2.0	- 2.8	- 3.7
Industrial Relations					
Strikes and lockouts - days lost..	May	247,733	+ 38.7	+604.4	+518.3

x These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.



C A N A D I A N

LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH BRANCH

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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Economics & Research Branch

Department of Labour

authorized by

Hon. Milton F. Gregg, V. C.
Minister

Arthur MacNamara, C. M. G.,
L. L. D., Deputy Minister.

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

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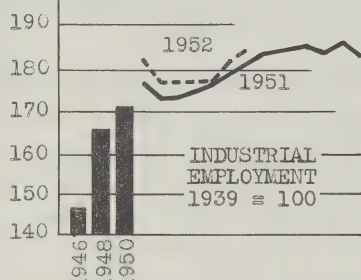
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LABOUR MARKET TRENDS

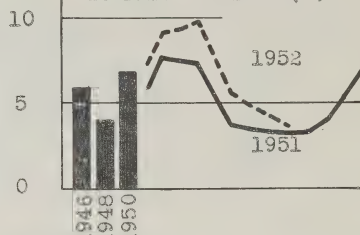
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Jul. 1, 1952	184.5
Apr. 1, 1952	177.9
Jan. 1, 1952	181.0
Oct. 1, 1951	186.5
Jul. 1, 1951	183.6
Jul. 1, 1950	170.8
Jul. 1, 1948	166.9
Jul. 1, 1946	146.3

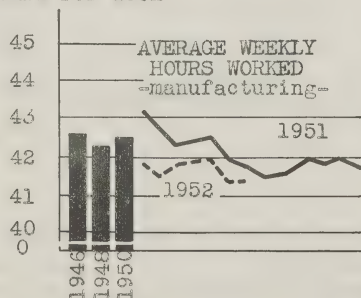
Per Cent

RATIO OF JOB APPLICATIONS
TO PAID WORKERS (1)



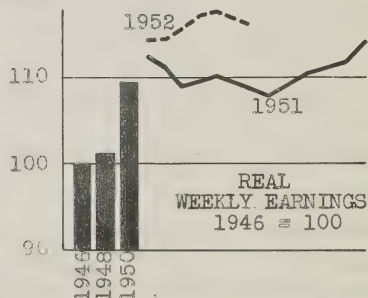
Sep. 1, 1952	3.9
Jun. 1, 1952	5.6
Mar. 1, 1952	9.4
Dec. 1, 1951	5.3
Sep. 1, 1951	3.3
Sep. 1, 1950	4.1
Sep. 1, 1948	2.5
Sep. 1, 1946	4.3

Hours Per Week



Jul. 1, 1952	41.4
Apr. 1, 1952	42.1
Jan. 1, 1952	41.7
Oct. 1, 1951	41.9
Jul. 1, 1951	41.7
Jul. 1, 1950	42.5
Jul. 1, 1948	42.0
Jul. 1, 1946	42.4

Index



Jul. 1, 1952	117.5
Apr. 1, 1952	119.1
Jan. 1, 1952	114.6
Oct. 1, 1951	111.0
Jul. 1, 1951	108.7
Jul. 1, 1950	109.1
Jul. 1, 1948	102.3
Jul. 1, 1946	98.2

(1) Ratio of live applications for employment at N.E.S. offices to all paid workers (includes persons without jobs and seeking work).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

The labour market in most parts of Canada continued to firm during the month of August and the first week of September, as the economy moved through its seasonal peak of activity. The relatively high level of employment of July rose somewhat during August; however, while no acute manpower deficiencies developed, the heavy seasonal demand for labour by agriculture and construction and the strengthening of the consumer goods sector created moderate shortages in some labour supply categories.

The rising level of general economic activity during the latter portion of the summer has created a labour market situation roughly equivalent to that of last year. On the 4th of September, 3.7 per cent of all paid workers were registered at National Employment Service offices; last year, 3.3 per cent were registered.

Present high levels of production and employment can be largely attributed to increased employment in construction and agriculture in most regions in Canada. The gathering of the Prairie harvest stands out in particular, since moving the grain to the seaboards and into ships affects employment levels from Saskatchewan to both coasts.

Unlike September of 1951, however, there are indications this year that this seasonal gain in employment has coincided, and meshed with a strengthening of industry in general. Employment levels in the consumer durables industries, for example, were actually slightly higher at the 1st of July than employment levels which employers in these industries had previously forecasted for the 1st of October. A similar though less pronounced trend is evident for those industries producing basic materials. While this may prove to be only a temporary recovery, evidence shows that employment gains during the summer months have not only been seasonal gains but rather the result of general improvement.

A partial explanation for rising employment levels in consumer goods industries is reflected in statistics pertaining to general sales activity. Retail sales in July were 11.5 per cent higher than in July of 1951, and preliminary data indicate that department store sales in August were 13.3 per cent higher than during August of last year. The value of wholesale sales in July were 10.5 per cent over the previous year, while inventories were 5.5 per cent lower, which indicates that increased consumer purchases are now being felt more directly at the manufacturers' level.

Other sectors of the economy continue strong. The producer goods industries, buoyed up by the defence program and the exploitation of natural resources, have continued to increase employment during the summer, while those firms actively engaged in opening up new resources continue to take advantage of favourable weather.

Construction also continues at a rapid pace, with contracts awarded during the first eight months of 1952 amounting to more than \$1.2 billion. While this is nearly \$500 million lower than for the same period in 1951, it is still much higher than for the two previous years. Residential contracts awarded during July and August were higher than during the same months in 1951, indicating that the level of residential construction activity in Canada as a whole by the end of August was not far below August of last year, although the total number of completions up to the end of June was markedly below the same period in 1951.

While the labour market, generally speaking, is quite strong at the present time, this is a comparatively late summer development, and some weaknesses are still present in the economy. The soft spots which do exist can be separated into two broad categories. Some industries, such as textiles and various paper products, are still operating at reduced hours and at lower than capacity levels of employment. It is apparent, however, that most of the firms in these industries are now slowly improving their position as the consumer goods industries, upon which they largely depend, continue to gain ground. On the other hand, there are some industries at present operating at below capacity levels, which show little sign of improvement. This is particularly true of forestry. In British Columbia, the combination of excess log inventories and uncertain overseas markets is discouraging higher production and employment levels especially in the case of the smaller mills. In Eastern Canada, where operators are now beginning to recruit labour, it is already apparent that the cut of pulp logs will be lower this season, largely because of excess log inventories and a weaker pulp market. Residential construction, while improving noticeably in recent weeks, remains as a local area problem. In some areas, particularly in Quebec and the Maritimes, this type of construction continues to lag, with little stimulus in evidence. In other areas residential construction is in full swing, with shortages of skilled construction labour in evidence.

There were 8,775 persons out of employment at the 15th of September as a direct result of industrial disputes. These were scattered for the most part, however, and not likely to have the same depressing effect on employment in general, as was the case in the steel strike in the United States, and the forestry and construction strikes in B.C. earlier in the summer.

While the level of employment in Canada as a whole is quite high, this is not uniformly true for all regions considered separately. Industrial soft spots referred to above are not spread evenly across the economy. This becomes apparent from the following table, which shows total unplaced applicants as a percentage of total paid workers, for the various regions in Canada.

Unplaced Applicants as Percentage of Paid Workers ^A

	Unplaced Applicants Sept. 4/52	Percentage of Paid Workers	Unplaced Applicants Aug. 7/52	Percentage of Paid Workers	Unplaced Applicants Sept. 6/51	Percentage of Paid Workers
Atlantic	17,900	4.5	18,800	4.8	15,200	3.8
Quebec	42,800	3.7	51,800	4.5	34,400	3.1
Ontario	43,100	2.8	51,500	3.3	40,000	2.7
Prairies	15,400	2.8	20,400	3.7	13,600	2.7
Pacific	28,600	7.5	34,400	9.0	25,800	7.0
Canada	147,800	3.7	176,800	4.4	129,000	3.3

^A Includes persons without work and seeking jobs.

Occupational shortages and surpluses also reflect the progressive tightening of the labour market. In most of the larger metropolitan and industrial areas shortages of key skills in the metal trades continue, along with persistent shortages of some categories of female office workers. The uneven character of construction area-wise, is reflected in reports of shortages of construction workers in some areas, and surpluses in others. The general tightness in agricultural regions is apparent from the fact that no major agricultural area reports occupational surpluses.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

September 1, 1952

LABOUR MARKET AREAS	LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE	LABOUR SHORTAGE
	1	2	3	4
Metropolitan	1 (1)	2 (3)	5 (5)	2 (1)
Major industrial	-	8 (9)	12 (13)	8 (6)
Major agricultural	-	-	10 (10)	7 (7)
Minor	4 (2)	2 (10)	46 (47)	16 (9)
TOTALS	5 (3)	12 (22)	73 (75)	33 (23)

Note: Figures for the beginning of August are shown in brackets. *For definition see below.

The month of August witnessed a quickening tempo of activity in the country as a whole, together with a slow but progressive reduction of local labour surpluses. A survey of 123 labour market areas covering about ninety-five per cent of the labour force showed a decline of eight in the number of areas with labour surpluses, and an increase of ten labour shortage areas. Although most of the increases in labour shortage occurred in the minor areas, one metropolitan area and two major industrial areas also moved from the balanced to the labour shortage category. The majority of areas showed no change in classification during the month, but almost all of them reported fewer people looking for jobs.

The main force behind the employment expansion of the month was the usual increase in the amount of construction and farm work. Underlying and strengthening these seasonal labour demands, however, there were definite signs of a reversal of the past declining trend of employment in the consumer durable and semi-durable industries, and some indications of a renewed upswing in home building.

Classification of Areas

		RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT ON FILE WITH NES TO PAID WORKERS *			
Code No	DEFINITION	METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREA	MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREA	MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREA	MINOR AREA
1	Labour Surplus	8% and over	10% and over	12% and over	12% and over
2	Labour Surplus	5 - 7.9%	5 - 9.9%	6 - 11.9%	6 - 11.9%
3	Approximate Balance	3 - 4.9%	3 - 4.9%	2 - 5.9%	2 - 5.9%
4	Labour Shortage	0 - 2.9%	0 - 2.9%	0 - 1.9%	0 - 1.9%

*Includes persons without jobs and seeking work

An examination of the unplaced applicant rolls of the National Employment Service brings out more clearly this recent strengthening of demand for labour. At the beginning of June there were 74,000 more workers registered with the NES than there were a year earlier. By the beginning of September this gap had narrowed to 16,500. These figures indicate that in the past three months the economy has gained much of the ground lost during the decline in consumer demand last winter, and that the substantial additions to the labour force of the past year are being gradually absorbed into employment.

Not all regions showed an equal improvement in employment conditions. The effects of stronger consumer demand were felt mainly in Ontario, with considerable employment gains in the furniture, electrical goods and primary and secondary textiles. The after-effects of the steel strike in the United States were gradually disappearing, although they acted as a deterrent to hiring in some industries using metal. In eastern Quebec and the Maritimes the upswing was less marked because of a smaller volume of woods work this year, but defence and resource development projects created urgent demands for almost all types of construction workers. Employment in the Prairie provinces approached its seasonal peak with the harvesting of a record grain crop, and in British Columbia the forest and construction industries were rapidly recovering from the strikes and forest closures of July and August.

A T L A N T I C The overall employment situation in the Atlantic region continued to improve during August despite the impact of certain employment-retarding factors. The volume of construction work has gained steadily during past months, bringing the present level of activity above that of the corresponding period last year. The main construction operations in the region were the large railway and defence construction projects in Newfoundland, Labrador and Seven Islands. Although there was a surplus of carpenters in many urban centres much of the heavy demand for such skilled workers as carpenters, electricians, bricklayers, sheet metal workers and heavy equipment operators in the outlying areas was unsatisfied. While increased construction activity was the most significant single factor contributing to the improvement in the employment situation as a whole, the wholesale and retail trades, textiles and waterfront activity also showed some improvement during the month.

There were, however, certain unfavourable influences present in the August employment situation. Predominant among these were the normal summer declines in woods operations and the small demand for farm workers. Labour demands for harvesting hay and grain were the lowest for the past few years. Production and employment in the fishing

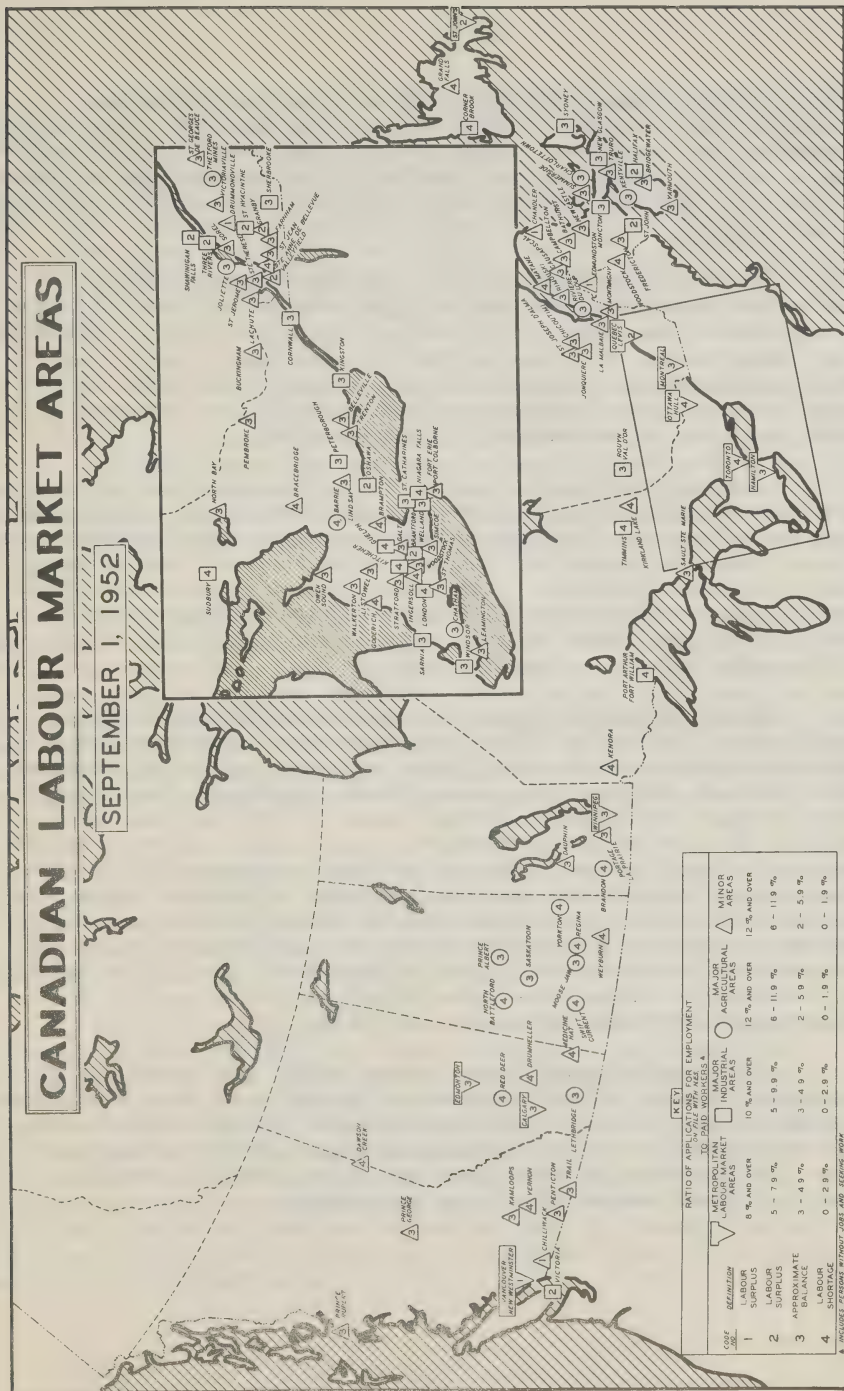
CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

SEPTEMBER 1, 1952

	LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE	LABOUR SHORTAGE
	1	2	3	4
METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS (labour force 75,000 and over)	Vancouver - New Westminster	Quebec - Levis St. John's	Calgary Edmonton Hamilton Montreal Winnipeg	Ottawa - Hull Toronto
MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS (labour force 25,000 - 75,000: less than 40 per cent in agriculture)		Brantford Halifax Oshawa Saint John Shawinigan Falls St. Hyacinthe Three Rivers Victoria	Cornwall Kingston Moncton New Glasgow Peterborough Rouyn - Val d'Or Sarnia Sherbrooke St. Catharines Sydney Welland Windsor	Corner Brook Fort William - Port Arthur Guelph Kitchener - Waterloo London Niagara Falls Sudbury Timmins
MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS (labour force 25,000 - 75,000: 40 per cent or more in agriculture)			Charlottetown Chatham Joliette Kentville Lethbridge Moose Jaw Prince Albert Rivière du Loup Saskatoon Thetford Mines	Barrie Brandon North Battleford Red Deer Regina Swift Current Yorkton
MINOR AREAS (labour force 10,000 - 25,000)	Chandler Chilliwack Drummondville Edmonton	Granby Valleyfield	Bathurst Belleville Bridgewater Buckingham Campbellton Causapscal Chicoutimi Farnham Fort Erie - Port Colborne Fredericton Galt Jonquière Kamloops Lachute La Malbaie Leamington Lindsay Listowel Montmagny Newcastle North Bay Owen Sound Penticton Pembroke Portage la Prairie Prince George Prince Rupert Rimouski Sault Ste. Marie Simcoe Sorel Ste. Thérèse St. George de Beauce St. Jean St. Jerome St. Joseph d'Alma Stratford St. Thomas Summerside Trail Trenton Truro Victoriaville Walkerton Woodstock, Ont. Yarmouth	Bracebridge Brampton Dauphin Dawson Creek Drumheller Goderich Grand Falls Ingersoll Kenora Kirkland Lake Matane Medicine Hat Ste. Anne de Bellevue Vernon Weyburn Woodstock, N.B.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

SEPTEMBER 1, 1952



KEY		RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT TO TOTAL WORKERS	
SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	MAJOR AREA	MINOR AREA
△	Metropolitan Area	Ratio 10% and over	Ratio 12% and over
○	Major Area	Ratio 8% and over	Ratio 8 - 11.9%
□	Minor Area	Ratio 5 - 7.9%	Ratio 5 - 9.9%
1	Surplus	Ratio 3 - 4.9%	Ratio 2 - 5.9%
2	Labour	Ratio 0 - 2.9%	Ratio 0 - 1.9%
3	Approximate		
4	Shortage		

* INCLUDES REGION WITHOUT JOB AND SEEKING WORK

industry, although generally holding up well earlier in the year, were hampered by poor catches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick during August. In Newfoundland, total production of fresh, frozen and filleted fish showed a sharp increase for the first six months of this year compared with the first half of 1951 but this industry became less active during July and August.

The employment situation as a whole in the region was nevertheless somewhat better during August than at any time this year. This improvement was reflected in National Employment Service statistics of job vacancies and live applications for employment. At the end of August, registrations of job-seekers had declined to 18,000, the lowest figure for 1952, while job vacancies, particularly for construction skills, continued in substantially large numbers.

Metropolitan Areas. St. John's, Newfoundland, the only labour market area in this category in the Atlantic Region, had a labour surplus at the end of August. The main surplus occupations were loggers, truck drivers, seamen and unskilled construction workers and longshoremen. Defence projects at Goose Bay continued to absorb construction labourers during August but because of the lateness of the season and the anticipation of local employment opportunities it was possible to recruit only half the number of workers required.

Major Industrial Areas. Of the six local areas in this classification, Halifax and Saint John had labour surpluses, New Glasgow, Sydney and Moncton were balanced labour markets, and Corner Brook had a labour shortage. In the latter area, local construction together with defence projects maintained a strong demand for skilled tradesmen, especially for such skills as plumbers, electricians and heavy equipment operators. A small volume of lumber cutting, together with lay-offs of railway crews, retarded the employment upswing in Moncton, whereas in Sydney and New Glasgow, an increase in the number of job opportunities resulted in more than 20 per cent fewer job registrations at the end of August than the corresponding period last year. In Halifax and Saint John, fishermen's catches were below normal, and this resulted in slackness and part-time work at several plants.

Major Agricultural Areas. Labour supply and demand was in approximate balance in Charlottetown and Kentville at the end of August. In Charlottetown, vacancies for female workers exceeded applications, and in the males branch, skilled tradesmen and good labourers were in short supply. Employment will become more active in Kentville when the processing plants resume work during September.

Minor Areas. Of the eleven labour market areas in this group, Grand Falls and Woodstock were in the shortage category, Edmundston showed a labour surplus, and the remaining areas were in approximate balance during August. In Edmundston, job applications mounted rapidly as workers registered for potato picking in Maine. In all other minor areas, registration declined during the month but there was no acute labour shortage. There was a strong demand for construction skills but, at the same time, smaller pulp cutting quotas this year resulted in a surplus of loggers, and farm labour requirements were less than anticipated.

QUEBEC

The Quebec region is currently experiencing a high degree of industrial expansion and employment in most industries has been at a high and rising level.

Earlier weakness apparent in the consumer goods industries have largely disappeared. The return to regular hours and full production in textiles is taking place slowly but clothing firms are planning a very active fall season and hiring has picked up in furniture, shoe and leather manufacturing plants.

The problem in Quebec is for growth in industry to keep pace with steady, strong rises in the labour force. Since many of the new entrants are unskilled, some surpluses of workers seeking employment in seasonal industries have resulted. These excess labour supplies are being reduced as the summer advances and harvest work within and without the province gets under way. The anticipated smaller cut in logging and the shorter cutting season this winter will, however, reduce the employment opportunities available for these workers during the next five or six months.

Hiring during the month of August was slower than earlier in the season because of strikes, vacations and some steel shortages, but registrations at Employment Service offices fell by 4,700 and the labour market was in balance in most areas at the end of the month. Registrations at September 4, totalled 42,800, some 8,400 more than a year earlier.

Metropolitan Areas. The employment situation in Montreal continued in balance during the month of August. High employment levels were maintained in iron and steel plants with an unsatisfied demand for qualified machinists and machine operators. Hiring in general was lower because of strikes in the shipbuilding, copper refining and the boiler and plate industry, and material shortages resulted in a number of lay-offs. Lighter industries were in their busy season in most instances and considerable hiring was under way. The large amount of industrial construction under way resulted in a high level of construction employment in Montreal but because of the sharply increased labour supply there has been an excess of labourers.

In Quebec City - Levis, the employment situation showed a labour surplus at the end of August. Hiring in the logging industry for the winter season was just beginning and it will probably be about mid-September before the camps are open. Paper mills reported a high and stable level of employment and tobacco manufacturing firms maintained a large staff. Textile industries were still working short-time with defence orders supporting much of their activity. Increased activity in shoe manufacturing has resulted in a shortage of specialized help. Activity was, however, tied up in the Levis shipyards because of a labour dispute.

Major Industrial Areas. Two of the five areas classed in this group, Rouyn-Val D'or and Sherbrooke, had a balanced labour market at the end of August. Gold and base metal mines were working at capacity and a large number of persons were prospecting in the area. Surpluses of unskilled help have been leaving for the Prairie harvest. Most industries in Sherbrooke were operating at a high level and many employment opportunities were available this year in construction.

Labour surpluses continued in St. Hyacinthe, Shawinigan Falls and Three Rivers where some short-time work was apparent in textiles and paper manufacturing, and where the construction program was reduced over last year's level. Other industries were producing at a high level and expansion projects were under way in a wide variety of industries, including furniture, chemical manufacturing, textiles and iron and steel.

Major Agricultural Areas. In all areas in which the major activity is agriculture, the employment situation was in balance at the end of August.

Substantial road work in rural areas as well as extension of rural electrification has provided many jobs in the farming areas of the province. Deep sea fishing was reported as exceptionally good this year and the catch of cod has been heavy. The harvest itself was progressing satisfactorily in most parts. Italian immigrants have helped to build up the farm working force and curers from the United States have been brought in to help with the tobacco harvest.

Minor Areas. In the 22 areas in this group, 18 have either a balanced employment situation or a labour shortage. A slight labour surplus existed in two areas while a considerable labour surplus persisted in the Drummondville and Chandler areas. While the textile mills in the Drummondville area are gradually increasing production after a long labour dispute and generally slackened activity, employment has not yet returned to normal. Construction has also been at a low level. In Chandler, the main difficulty has been the sharp decline in summer cutting in the woods.

ONTARIO

Labour requirements and available supplies continued generally in balance throughout most of the Ontario region during August and early September. The focal point of employment expansion, however, shifted from agriculture to construction and, to an increasing extent, to the consumer goods industries.

Employment in the electrical goods, furniture, food products, rubber, textiles, and defence goods industries continued to increase during August. Despite the fear of steel shortages, most plants were able to continue at normal production levels except for holiday closures. There were lay-offs of about 5,800 automobile workers during August, as a result of the steel strike but most of these were back to work by the beginning of September, except at the Chrysler plant which remained closed for model change-over. Construction and building activity, which lagged behind last year during the spring and early summer, gradually increased during July and August and by the beginning of September there were scattered shortages of carpenters and other construction workers.

The demand for agricultural labour has levelled off as the harvest is completed in most parts of the region and the extra workers who came to Ontario from the Maritimes and Prairies have returned home. On the other hand about 2,100 Ontario farm labourers had gone to the Prairie Provinces by September 13 to assist with the western harvest. There is still a strong demand for tobacco workers and now that school has reopened some farmers will have trouble obtaining fruit pickers.

The continued steady growth in employment in construction and some manufacturing industries along with the high level of employment in agriculture resulted in a decline of about 8,400 in the number of job applicants registered with the National Employment Service offices in Ontario during the month of August. Total unplaced applicants were still, however, 43,100 at September 4, about 3,100 above the 1951 level and 5,000 higher than in 1950.

Metropolitan Areas. The labour market of the Hamilton metropolitan area is in approximate balance but in the Toronto and Ottawa-Hull areas there are relatively small numbers of job applicants on file at the National Employment Service offices. In Toronto, increased production in the defence industries, electrical apparatus and radio and television plants has resulted in some shortages of engineers, aircraft workers, and typists and stenographers. A general improvement in retail trade has produced some increased demand for sales clerks and some of the large Toronto department stores have already hired a portion of their extra fall help. In the Ottawa-Hull area there is a continuing shortage of machinists, toolmakers and die setters for out-of-town defence

plants, with no suitable applicants available. There are still several vacancies for junior clerical workers but most applicants in this field are older workers, many of them married women. The iron and steel industries in Hamilton are again working at capacity and, although most of their labour requirements have been met, there is some unfilled demand for sheet metal workers since none are available.

Major Industrial Areas. Increased employment in manufacturing of electrical goods, radio and television sets, furniture, textiles and clothing, and in defence production, together with a continuing increase in construction activity during August has created a heavy demand for labour in the industrial centers of Ontario and some labour shortages appeared in Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo, London and Niagara Falls. The strong demand for construction workers, miners and metalworkers has resulted in a tight labour market in Sudbury and Timmins. Most requirements have been met locally by the National Employment Service offices but there is some shortage of qualified miners in Timmins and of metalworkers in Sudbury. Seven of the nine remaining major industrial areas in the Ontario region are in the approximately balanced labour market grouping, while there is still a slight surplus of labour in Brantford and Oshawa. Most of those unemployed in these two areas are unskilled workers in the older age groups and are apparently unable to qualify for the vacancies available.

Major Agricultural Areas. Harvesting throughout Ontario is nearing completion and the demand for farm help has been considerably reduced. The heavy construction in Barrie this year along with a later harvest than in some parts of the province have maintained a strong demand for labour in this area. There has been some slackening in demand for construction workers in the past few weeks but further construction projects at Camp Borden, planned for this fall, will keep demand for this type of labour firm for some time. Most types of labour are in adequate supply in Chatham but there is still a heavy demand for experienced tobacco workers.

Minor Areas. Labour is in good supply in most of the smaller centers in Ontario with a balanced labour market in sixteen of the 21 local office areas listed. The number of job applicants in Bracebridge, Brampton, Goderich, Ingersoll and Kirkland Lake are very low in relation to the number of wage and salary workers in these regions but there are no large outstanding demands for labour. There are some unfilled orders for carpenters and construction workers in Goderich but on the whole the demand and supply of labour is in approximate balance in the minor areas.

PRAIRIE

During August, the emphasis in employment in the Prairie region was in agriculture. The grain crop matured under almost ideal weather conditions, and by the end of the month harvesting operations were general in all three provinces. The wheat crop alone is estimated at 651,000,000 bushels, well above the previous record of 545,000,000 bushels established in 1928. By the middle of September there was every indication that this year the harvest would be successfully completed.

The heavy, short-term labour requirements of the western harvest, when added to the high level of activity induced by the exploitation of oil resources and numerous defence projects, brought the level of employment to its summer peak and exerted pressure on all sources of manpower supply. In spite of a large movement of harvesters from eastern Canada, strong competition for the available supply of workers developed between agriculture, construction and railway maintenance, particularly in Saskatchewan and northern Alberta. Moose Jaw and Regina had vacancies for construction workers cleared to other regions, and all of the larger areas except Winnipeg reported shortages of farm and construction workers (see Local Occupational Shortages and Surpluses, page 24).

Reflecting this heightened activity, job applications registered with the National Employment Service dropped steadily to 15,900 at the end of August. This total represents 3 per cent of all paid workers, the lowest ratio of all regions in the country. A condition of general labour shortage existed in thirteen of the areas with a labour force of over 10,000, and labour demand and supply were in approximate balance in the remaining eight.

Metropolitan Areas. Labour demand and supply were in approximate balance in the three metropolitan areas. Construction permit values in Edmonton, Calgary and Winnipeg showed a renewed upswing in residential building, and in the latter part of August there was a strong demand for all types of tradesmen. Because of sizeable defence orders, firms in the secondary textile industry in Winnipeg reported a greater volume of work than in 1951, and trained machine operators were urgently required. About 450 workers will be needed for the sugar beet harvest in this area, but no difficulty is expected in recruiting this number. In Edmonton, the movement of workers to harvesting areas and B.C. lumber camps, coupled with increasing defence and residential building resulted in a marked shortage of construction workers, both skilled and unskilled. Oil drilling has been held up through a shortage of steel pipe, but was expected to return to normal within a few weeks.

Major Industrial Areas. Fort William - Port Arthur reported steady progress in shipbuilding and the manufacturing of aircraft, motor buses and newsprint, with little change in the level of employment in these industries. Seasonal demands of construction and lake shipping were sufficient to move this area from the "balanced" to "labour shortage" category. Hiring for pulp cutting increased as fall and winter logging operations got under way.

Latest employment reports show a total of 6,000 workers in the Lakehead area, which is only slightly less than the total for the same date in 1951. Pulp and paper company executives have indicated, however, that this phase of operations will probably absorb fewer men in the coming months than it did last year.

Major Agricultural and Minor Areas. By the middle of September the Federal-Provincial harvesting excursion had brought 2,145 workers from the east to Winnipeg for allocation to the various sections of the region. Although this extra labour supply was adequate for early requirements, most of these areas experienced shortages of labour. This condition will probably become more marked during September as harvesting activity reaches its peak.

PACIFIC About nine per cent of all paid workers were registered for employment with the National Employment Service during July and the first half of August, the highest percentage for any region in Canada. Total applications for the region amounted to 31,500 at the beginning of September, an increase of 5,200 over the comparable total a year earlier. The higher degree of unemployment suggested by these figures is largely the result of strikes and dry weather, which together curtailed coastal logging operations from the middle of June until August 25. Some secondary unemployment was evident during this period in shipping, machine shops, air transportation and retail trade.

Underlying these conditions, however, is a softening demand for lumber and sulphate pulp, the effects of which showed up in high log inventories and lay-offs of loggers before the strike. Lumber shipments to the United States and Canadian markets have been running about five per cent below last year's levels. The substantial remaining portion of the 1951 United Kingdom lumber contract will keep sawmilling firms busy through September, but after this date prospects for overseas lumber exports are less certain. Although an initial upsurge in activity is expected to follow the re-opening of forest limits, the foregoing factors will probably prevent employment from reaching capacity levels.

The settlement of the construction strikes in most areas has given a decided boost to building employment. Housing construction has increased considerably over last year. Although total construction contracts for the first seven months of 1952 are less than half last year's value, much of the work represented by last year's contract awards is not yet completed and will continue, in some instances through 1954. As a result, the latest figures (June) show that employment in construction work in British Columbia increased by 3,000 over that of last year.

Metropolitan Areas. Two-thirds of the job applicants, including many loggers from other parts of the province, were registered in Vancouver - New Westminster, placing this area in the higher labour surplus category. Since the settlement of the strike, labour demand from sawmills and shingle mills has been high with some firms working three shifts on export contracts. Canneries were also working at capacity on the salmon catch, which has been considerably heavier than usual. An impending labour dispute in shipbuilding yards has caused some lay-offs in recent weeks.

Major Industrial Areas. Termination of the woodworkers' strike and continued hirings by H.M.C. Dockyard in Victoria resulted in slight employment gains during August. However, the construction workers' strike continued in this city with no sign of agreement, tying up existing projects and preventing a start on new work. NES job registrations indicated some labour surplus, unchanged from the previous month.

Minor Areas. Interior British Columbia has been relatively free from enforced work stoppages. Woods workers are currently engaged in contract negotiations but it is expected that settlement will be reached without strike action. Food processing plants in the Okanagan Valley were operating at capacity to handle better than average fruit crops. Labour supplies were generally adequate because of the movement of unemployed workers from the coast. At the beginning of September, all minor areas were in the "balanced" or "shortage" categories except Chilliwack, which was affected by its proximity to the labour surplus in Vancouver - New Westminster.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

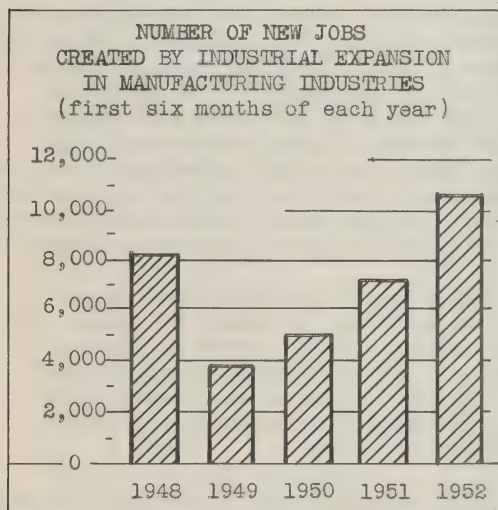
For the purposes of this article, labour market areas have been divided into four broad groups or areas on the basis of the size of the labour force and the proportion of the labour force that is engaged in agriculture. The classification of the groups or areas is shown at the bottom of page 6 .

In determining the definitions of higher and lower degrees of labour surplus, approximate balance between labour supply and demand, and labour shortage, a number of significant factors were taken into account. For example, a high ratio of N.E.S. job applications to all paid workers (including persons without jobs and seeking work), is more significant in a metropolitan area where employment is normally more stable than it is in an area in which seasonal industries predominate. Furthermore, this ratio normally fluctuates over a greater range during the year in "major agricultural" and "minor" areas than it does in "metropolitan" areas. Similarly, a condition of labour shortage becomes apparent when the ratio is somewhat higher in larger areas than in smaller areas, because the "hard core" of unemployed generally forms a greater proportion of the labour force in a large area than it does in a small one. These factors are reflected in the labour rating in the classification shown on page 6 and in the key accompanying the map on page 9 .

Labour conditions in the various areas, which give a representative coverage of about 95 per cent of the country's labour force, are shown in the summary table (page 6), the detailed chart (page 8) and the map (page 9).

PLANT EXPANSION AND NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN MANUFACTURING, FIRST HALF 1952

In the first half of 1952, more new jobs were provided by expansion of plant capacity in manufacturing industries than during the same period in any of the past five years. The total of 11,000 new jobs recorded in the first six months of the year is well above the previous high of 8,100 for the same period in 1948. However, significant changes have occurred in the pattern of industrial expansion compared to 1948; employment expansion is most marked in defence and defence-connected industries, and relatively light in both the durable and non-durable consumer sectors.



Of the 11,000 new jobs reported, 2,200 were in aircraft, 1,900 in electrical apparatus, 1,500 in iron and steel, 1,000 in wood products, 500 in chemicals. Expansion elsewhere was relatively light.

The most rapidly expanding manufacturing industry at the present time in terms of the employment created by new and extended plant facilities is the aircraft industry. Four years ago the Canadian aircraft industry only employed 9,200 workers; by May 1, 1952 employment in this industry had been tripled, and the trend towards expansion is expected to continue. More new plants and plant extensions are opening up in the aircraft industry in 1952 than in any other year since the last world war. During the first half of this year, 2,200 new job opportunities were

created in the aircraft industry, with a much larger number slated for the second half of the year.

New plants and plant extensions in the electrical apparatus industry required 1,900 workers in the same period, but again, the bulk of expansion was related to defence in the field of electronics and industrial equipment. Defence orders have taken up much of the slack in radio production, and also in many household appliance firms which are now turning out defence goods. While the total of new job opportunities in this industry is high, nearly all the new jobs have been the result of seven large expansion projects.

The 1,500 additional workers required as a result of expanded capacity in the iron and steel industry in the first half of 1952, are concentrated in producers' goods firms. All the large steel producers in Canada are expanding capacity, in continuation of a program which started several years ago. Marked expansion is also occurring in firms producing tools and dies, and other industrial equipment.

The Canadian chemical industry is still expanding, although most of the expansion is in the field of industrial chemicals and chemicals for defence projects, with a tapering off in expansion of such consumer products as cosmetics and cellophane. At least 500 new workers were required by expansion in this industry during the first half of this year, despite the fact that most of the larger industrial expansion projects being carried out at the present time will not be completed until late 1952, and in some cases early 1953.

In the field of asbestos products, abrasives, cement and cement products a considerable amount of industrial expansion has recently been completed. Classified under the non-metallic mineral products industry, these undertakings provided nearly 800 new jobs in the first half of 1952. Much of the expansion in the abrasives industry was planned and started before the 1951 slump in the automobile industry, its major customer, and although this industry showed a strong comeback on 1952 models, the recent steel strike in the United States has caused a temporary drop in orders to abrasive plants. Consequently, employment increases in this industry may not be quite as high as was originally intended. In the case of cement and asbestos, however, demand is strong and the intended employment expansion has been attained.

A similar situation arose in the wood products industry, where major expansion plans were inaugurated before the current slump in demand for lumber and plywood. The major expansion of the British Columbia plywood industry is mainly responsible for increased capacity requiring over 900 additional workers in wood products during the first half of this year. While all the workers required for capacity operations have not yet been hired, the companies concerned expect that improvement in market conditions will soon bring this about.

British Columbia is also the main site for new plants in the pulp and paper industry and accounts for most of the 860 new workers hired as a result of expansion in this industry in the first six months of 1952. A huge new \$40 million newsprint mill at Duncan Bay, British Columbia, recently required 500 workers. A large pulp mill extension at Nanaimo was started before the drop in demand for pulp occurred, but the company intends to complete the job.

There has been a marked falling off in expansion in the food and beverages industry as a whole. Most of the 800 new jobs in the industry are centred in new fish processing plants, situated mainly in the Atlantic region, particularly Newfoundland, but several plants have also been completed in British Columbia.

In conclusion, while there are more new jobs opening up because of industrial expansion in manufacturing industries in 1952 than in any other year, the bulk of the expansion is being distributed over very few industries compared with former years.

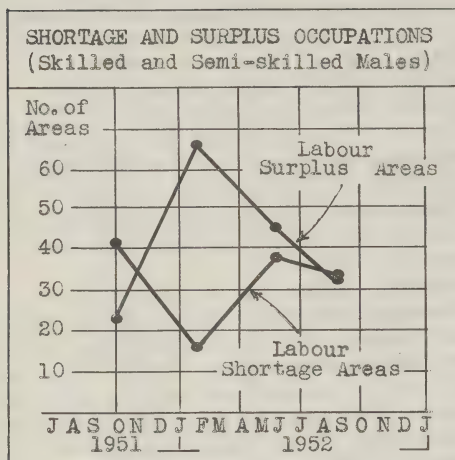
New Employment as a Result of Plant Expansion First Half 1952 (1)

Products	Location	Number of New Workers
Aircraft	Halifax, N.S.	250
Fish and Fish Products	Grand Bank, Nfld.	300
Fish and Fish Products	Louisburg, N.S.	200
Castings	Grand'Mere, Que.	200
Clothing	Granby, Que.	125
Electric Lamps	St. Malo, Que.	150
Hydro-electric Equipment	St. Johns, Que.	250
Sponge Rubber	Waterville, Que.	150
Textiles	Grand'Mere, Que.	100
Textiles	St. Jerome, Que.	125
Textile Shuttles	Lachute Mills, Que.	100
Wire Rope	Three Rivers, Que.	100
Abrasives	Chippawa, Ont.	100
Aircraft Parts	Renfrew, Ont.	300
Aircraft Parts	St. Thomas, Ont.	250
Aircraft Parts	Toronto, Ont.	100
Aircraft Parts	" "	300
Aircraft Parts	" "	500
Aircraft Parts	" "	600-800
Automobile Parts	Lindsay, Ont.	100
Automobile Parts	St. Thomas, Ont.	120
Electric Switches	Toronto, Ont.	150
Food Machines	Owen Sound, Ont.	100
Radar Equipment	Toronto, Ont.	300
Shell Fuses	Toronto, Ont.	150
Television and Radio Sets	" "	200
Television and Radio Sets	" "	400
Aircraft, Electrical Apparatus and other Products	Winnipeg, Man.	150
Commercial Explosives	Calgary, Alta.	150-200
Concrete Building Forms	Calgary, Alta.	100
Concrete Pressure Pipe	Regina, Sask.	100
Locks (Builders' Hardware)	Vancouver, B.C.	130-200
Plywood	Port Alberni, B.C.	100
Plywood	Vancouver, B.C.	225
Plywood	Victoria, B.C.	225

(1) Each item represents one project. Only projects requiring 100 or more new workers are included.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

September 1, 1952



The lines show the number of areas in which there were shortages and surpluses in the occupations.

During August, as summer activities approached their normal peak level and consumer goods industries showed signs of strengthening, the demand for labour came closer to approximating the available supply than at any time this year. Predominant among the occupations continuing in short supply were the metal trades. On the other hand, labour surpluses continued in construction occupations in a fairly large number of areas during the month, but compared with previous months there was a decline both in the extent of the surpluses and in the number of areas involved. There was a surplus of workers in logging occupations in many parts of the Maritimes, but operators in a number of areas in Quebec have placed large advance orders for loggers with

the National Employment Service.

The total number of local areas reporting shortages was about equal to that of areas reporting surpluses (33 and 32). However, as the following tables indicate, there were only 13 occupations in which supply exceeded demand, carpenters and loggers appearing in rather a large number of areas. On the other hand, occupations with labour shortages numbered 25 and there was no widespread shortage of any particular skill, which indicates that the supply in these occupations is gradually tightening.

Metropolitan Areas. Of the ten metropolitan areas, all except St. John's, Vancouver - New Westminster and Quebec showed occupational shortages of one or more specific skills at the beginning of September. Metal trades dominated the shortage list in these areas, and indicated an unsatisfied demand for such skills as sheet metal workers, machinists, toolmakers and die setters, auto mechanics and aircraft workers. For female workers, strong demands were apparent for textile workers in Montreal and Winnipeg and for secretaries, stenographers and typists in Calgary, Montreal and Toronto. Surpluses of construction workers existed in five of the ten local offices but except for draftsmen in Montreal and textile workers in Montreal and Toronto, the only significant surpluses were in Vancouver - New Westminster where substantial numbers of carpenters, loggers and bushmen, cranemen and shovelmen appeared on the surplus list.

Major Industrial Areas. Of the twenty-eight areas in this category, only Moncton and Saint John showed shortages of more than one occupational skill. In Moncton, bricklayers and tile setters, carpenters, plumbers and steamfitters, sheet metal workers, auto mechanics and domestic workers were in short supply; blasters and powdermen, electricians and kitchen workers were in short supply in Saint John. Apart from textile workers in St. Hyacinthe, Sherbrooke and Valleyfield, the only occupational group appearing on the surplus list in the major industrial areas was carpenters.

Major Agricultural Areas. Occupational shortages were apparent in six of the eighteen areas in this category at the beginning of September, and none showed occupational surpluses. The only shortages were for farm hands in Brandon, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Saskatoon and Swift Current.

Minor Areas. Farm and harvest hands appeared as a large surplus occupation in Edmundston at the end of August. This surplus is expected to be of short duration, however, as most of the applicants will shortly be absorbed on potato picking.

Local Occupational Shortages - Male
September 1, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Farm Hands	27	-
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	65	4
Edmonton	Sheet Metal Workers	14	2
Hamilton	Sheet Metal Workers	12	4
Montreal	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	71	35
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	107	106
Ottawa-Hull	Loggers & Bushmen	49	9
" "	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	60	1
Toronto	Engineers	25	11
"	Aircraft Workers	40	-
Winnipeg	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	38	13
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	16	3
"	Sales Personnel	136	63

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)
September 1, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Corner Brook	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	16	-
Halifax	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	76	6
Kingston	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	15	3
London	Unskilled Construction Workers	51	16
Moncton	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	71	18
"	Bricklayers & Tilesetters	63	2
"	Carpenters	90	64
"	Personal Service Workers	43	6
"	Plumbers & Steam Fitters	47	8
"	Sheet Metal Workers	15	-
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	233	93
New Glasgow	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	16	5
Oshawa	Unskilled Construction Workers	143	34
Rouyn-Val d'Or	Plumbers & Steamfitters	10	1
St. Catharines	Farm Hands	47	-
Saint John, N.B.	Blasters, Powdermen & Drillers	29	1
" "	Electricians	11	2
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	213	6
" "	Kitchen Workers	32	2
Sudbury	Unskilled Metal Workers	172	3
"	Unskilled Miners	217	-
<u>Major Agricultural Areas</u>			
Brandon	Farm Hands	192	6
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	39	10
Chatham	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	395	14
Moose Jaw	Carpenters	87	-
" "	Farm Hands	62	15
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	74	16
North Battleford	Farm Hands	41	-
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	41	12
Red Deer	Carpenters	40	2
Regina	Farm Hands	30	-
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	63	5
Saskatoon	Farm Hands	45	20
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	36	9

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Concl'd)

September 1, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Minor Areas</u>			
Chandler	Loggers & Bushmen	121	7
Chicoutimi	Loggers & Bushmen	252	7
Drummondville	Miners	55	9
Galt	Boilermakers	30	-
Goderich	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	24	-
"	Longshoremen	47	-
Grand Falls	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	10	-
Jonquiere	Loggers & Bushmen	85	1
Matane	Loggers & Bushmen	74	-
Prince George	Unskilled Workers in Lumber		
	Products	49	6
Rimouski	Loggers & Bushmen	271	14
St. Georges de Beauce	Loggers & Bushmen	309	10
Simcoe	Farm Hands	40	4
Sorel	Machinists, Toolmakers &		
	Die Setters	50	6
"	Machine Shop Workers	25	5

Local Occupational Shortages - Female

September 1, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Domestic Workers	223	80
"	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	107	82
"	Waitresses	75	34
Edmonton	Domestic Workers	194	84
"	Waitresses	85	23
Hamilton	Domestic Workers	93	63
Montreal	Boot & Shoe Workers	115	61
"	Domestic Workers	298	170
"	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	395	293
"	Textile Workers - Secondary	1,432	900

Local Occupational Shortages - Female (Concl'd)

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas (Cont'd)</u>			
Montreal	Waitresses	196	140
"	Unskilled Leather Workers	49	18
"	Unskilled Textile Workers	383	251
Ottawa-Hull	Domestic Workers	221	146
Toronto	Domestic Workers	428	201
"	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	608	186
"	Waitresses	221	119
Winnipeg	Domestic Workers	245	18
"	Textile Workers - Secondary	394	188
"	Waitresses	136	93

Major Industrial Areas

Halifax	Domestic Workers	137	27
"	Food & Tobacco Workers	88	-
"	Waitresses	49	12
"	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	70	4
London	Domestic	194	104
"	Waitresses	64	14
Niagara Falls	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	49	1
Saint John	Domestic Workers	47	18
Victoria	Domestic Workers	84	42

Major Agricultural Areas

Brandon	Domestic Workers	61	26
Charlottetown	Domestic Workers	84	28
Chatlam, Ont.	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	250	21
Moose Jaw	Domestic Workers	58	20
Regina	Domestic Workers	97	25
"	Waitresses	35	7
Saskatoon	Domestic Workers	135	56

Minor Areas

Chicoutimi	Domestic Workers	64	17
Jonquiere	Domestic Workers	43	15

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
September 1, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Montreal	Carpenters	388	67
"	Draftsmen	208	59
"	Painters	204	20
"	Textile Workers - Secondary	280	59
Quebec	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	92	14
St. John's	Carpenters	211	19
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	87	-
Toronto	Carpenters	336	8
"	Welders & Flame Cutters	149	28
Vancouver -	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	127	11
New Westminster	Carpenters	1,029	10
" "	Cranemen & Shovelmen	178	1
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	1,159	5
" "	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	303	37
" "	Painters	177	-
" "	Seamen	331	24
Winnipeg	Carpenters	192	23
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Corner Brook	Loggers & Bushmen	169	-
Cornwall	Pulp & Paper Workers	75	-
Port Arthur-Fort William	Loggers & Bushmen	118	1
St. Hyacinthe	Textile Workers - Primary	58	3
Sarnia	Carpenters	55	3
Shawinigan Falls	Carpenters	65	1
Sherbrooke	Textile Workers - Primary	78	-
Three Rivers	Carpenters	79	6
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	86	-
Valleyfield	Carpenters	109	-
" "	Painters	38	-
" "	Textile Workers - Primary	153	-
Victoria	Carpenters	187	-
"	Loggers & Bushmen	82	-

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Concl'd)

Area	Occupations	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
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Major Agricultural Areas

Kentville	Carpenters	48	-
Riviere du Loup	Loggers & Bushmen	47	-

Minor Areas

Bathurst	Carpenters	54	1
"	Loggers & Bushmen	54	1
Bridgewater	Loggers & Bushmen	25	-
Campbellton	Loggers & Bushmen	113	-
Chandler	Carpenters	149	17
Chilliwack	Carpenters	64	3
"	Loggers & Bushmen	201	-
Drummondville	Textile Workers - Primary	90	-
Edmundston	Loggers & Bushmen	43	-
"	Farm & Harvest Hands	647	-
Granby	Textile Workers - Primary	35	2
Grand Falls	Loggers & Bushmen	33	-
Portage la Prairie	Carpenters	27	-
St. Joseph d'Alma	Carpenters	49	17
Sorel	Carpenters	29	-
Trail	Carpenters	39	3
Yarmouth	Carpenters	43	-

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The preceding tables are based primarily on National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers.

The table on local occupational shortages shows the occupations in each area where the vacancies exceeded the applications by twenty-five or more. Male and female workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations are dealt with separately.

The table on local occupations surpluses covers male workers only and is compiled on the following basis:

Labour force in the area: Areas Listed if excess of applications over vacancies is:

75,000 and over	75 or more
25,000 to 75,000	50 or more
10,000 to 25,000	25 or more

In this table, unskilled workers are not listed and some service occupations as well as certain other occupational groups (e.g. foremen, apprentices, etc.) are excluded.

Both tables are adjusted in the light of qualitative information on employment in Canada during the period covered. This includes reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by local employment office managers. As a result of the examination of these data some occupations and areas may be deleted from the preliminary table and others, for which the statistical evidence is less conclusive, may be added.

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS

(PRELIMINARY DATA)

Items	1952		Percentage Change	
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>				
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.....	Aug.28	157,229	-10.5	+23.7
Per cent of labour force.....	Aug.28	3.0	3.3x	2.4x
Per cent of paid workers (1).....	Aug.28	3.9	4.4x	3.3x
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C.(2).....	Aug. 1	112,582	- 8.2	+34.2
Per cent of insured population.....	Aug. 1	3.6	4.0x	2.7x
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Aug. 1	64.1	62.5x	64.5x
Amount of benefit payments (\$000).....	July	6,295	- 6.4	+83.6
Index of employment (1939 = 100).....	July 1	184.5	+ 1.1	+ 0.5
Immigration.....	June	15,969	-19.6	-17.8
<u>Earnings and Income</u>				
Total labour income (\$000,000).....	June	889	+ 1.5	+ 8.3
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	July 1	\$53.90	- 0.3	+ 7.4
Average hourly earnings (mfg.).....	July 1	\$ 1.29	- 0.6	+ 8.9
Average hours worked per week (mfg.).....	July 1	41.4	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Average weekly earnings (mfg.).....	July 1	\$53.36	- 0.4	+ 8.2
Cost-of-living index (Av. 1935-39 = 100)	Aug. 1	187.6	- 0.2	- 0.7
Real weekly earnings (mfg.av. 1946=100).	July 1	117.5	- 0.7	+ 8.1
<u>Industrial Production</u>				
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	June	218.0	- 0.4	- 0.4
Manufacturing.....	June	222.1	- 0.5	- 1.7
Durables.....	June	269.6	- 0.5	- 2.5
Non-durables.....	June	194.5	- 0.4	- 1.0
<u>Industrial Relations</u>				
Strikes and lockouts - days lost.....	August	205,515	-76.7	- 9.3

x These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

(1) Includes persons without jobs and seeking work.

(2) Effective Aug. 1, claimants on temporary mass lay-offs excluded from total.

C A N A D I A N

LABOUR MARKET

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Economics & Research Branch

Department of Labour

authorized by

Hon. Milton F. Gregg, V.C.
Minister

Arthur MacNamara, C. M. G.,
L. L. D., Deputy Minister.

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

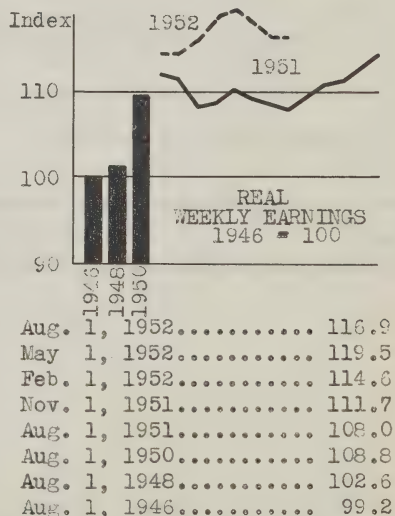
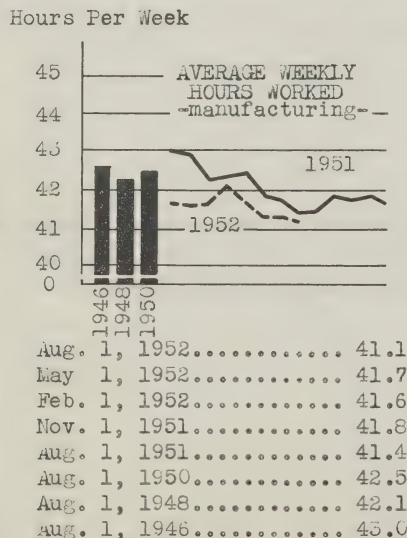
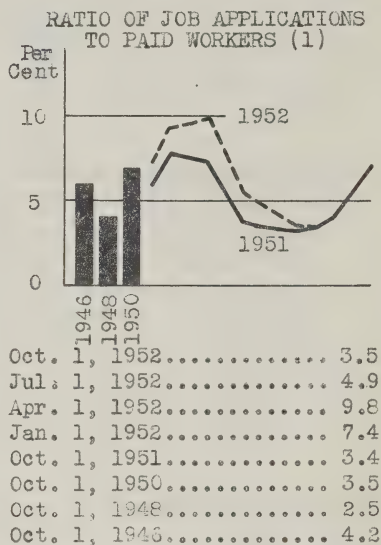
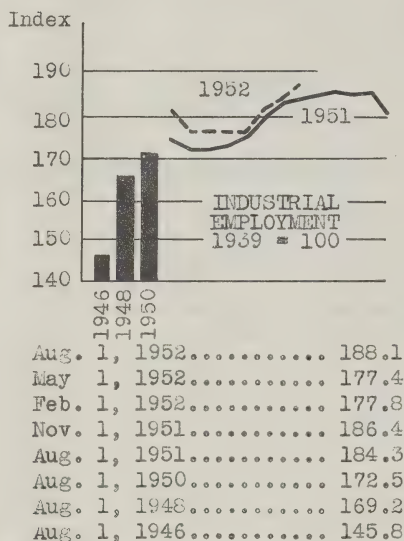
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LABOUR MARKET TRENDS



(1) Ratio of live applications for employment at N.E.S. offices to all paid workers (includes persons without jobs and seeking work).

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

Employment conditions continued to improve throughout Canada during the late summer months, as a result both of heavy seasonal activity in construction and agriculture, and a more general strengthening of the consumer goods sector of Canadian industry. Employment in the capital goods industries remained high through this period. Consequently increasing job opportunities reduced the numbers of unemployed while at the same time absorbing current increments to the labour force.

The months of September and October are always the busiest part of the year. This year activity in both agriculture and construction has been heavy. In agriculture, crops were good in most regions, while the exceptionally large grain crop created a tight labour market through the entire prairie region. Over 2,300 harvest workers were brought in from Eastern Canada under the Federal-Provincial Farm Labour Agreements to assist with the harvest. Organized movements of this kind, together with immigration have, when added to the local labour supply, proved adequate to meet the needs of most employers.

Construction activity, which had been lagging somewhat during the late spring and early summer, picked up rapidly, and by August was in full swing in most regions. Housing starts by July, for example, were running well ahead of the same time in 1951, a contrast to earlier months. Employment in highway construction and maintenance also increased during September and early October, as contractors hastened to complete work before winter.

Seasonal pressures in many areas were likewise intensified by preparations for the fall and winter logging season. Employment in logging is now increasing and will absorb a considerable number of workers from agriculture and construction as activity in these industries tapers off. During the past month hiring for logging operations absorbed much of the surplus labour in a number of local areas. It is possible that the reduced pulp-wood cut which is anticipated this winter will adversely affect employment levels in later months, but at the present time the combined demands of agriculture, construction and forestry have resulted in high employment levels in most parts of Canada.

In addition to this heavy seasonal activity, the past month was notable for the continuing recovery of the consumer goods sector of the economy. Present indications are that this recovery is likely to continue at least until the end of the year, unlike the experience of last year, when employment levels in this sector were ebbing steadily through the fall months. Higher incomes and increased consumer expenditures are the major sustaining forces behind this return to strength. In September, for example, department store sales were about 17 per cent higher than in September of 1951, thus continuing a pattern set in earlier months.

This high level of sales activity finds adequate support in personal income levels. Labour income during the first seven months of 1952 totalled \$6.053 billion, compared with \$5.441 billion a year ago, while the income position of western farmers has been considerably enhanced by the successful spring and fall harvests this year. Dividends are also running at a high level. Significantly, price levels have remained stable so that this year-to-year increase in consumer money income also constitutes a gain in real income. The effect of consumer expenditures is now appearing in Employment Service statistics where, for the first time in recent months, shortages of skills in such industries as clothing, textiles and leather are being reported.

The higher level of consumer buying has been associated with cautious inventory accumulation by retail and wholesale distributors. This, as noted last month, is a factor making for stability in the consumer goods industries. The same tendency is apparent in the United States, and the National City Bank of New York, in its September Monthly Letter states:

"It may be added that conservative buying policies should prolong the period of activity. A policy of restraining inventory accumulation rather than adding to it may save trouble later."

The capital goods industries, by and large, continued strong, as there has been no let-up in either public or private investment. Employment declined in the agricultural implements industry, but this is a seasonal drop which is to be expected. A lay-off also occurred in the truck division of one large automotive concern, as a result of excess supplies on the domestic market. Apart from this, employment continued at a high level, a situation which is to continue, in all probability, for some time to come. Capital goods industries provided the lion's share of new job opportunities resulting from plant expansion. In the country as a whole plant expansion provided a total of over 12,000 new jobs during the third quarter of 1952, according to a survey carried out by the Department of Labour. The cumulative total for the first three quarters of 1952 was 22,000 new jobs, the largest number since 1948, when the survey was initiated.

Foreign trade has also provided a stimulus to employment in both consumer goods and capital goods industries. During the first eight months of 1952 an export surplus of \$243.1 million was accumulated, compared with an import surplus of \$335.8 million during the same period in 1951. Domestic exports to all countries rose by 13.8 per cent in value during the eight months, while imports dropped by 8.3 per cent.

The strong demand for labour by nearly all industries absorbed much of the surplus labour formerly available. For Canada as a whole, the number of persons registered for employment with the National Employment Service at October 2 was about 3.5 per cent of paid workers, about the same percentage as last year.

In the various metropolitan areas, Quebec and Vancouver-New Westminster reported moderate labour surpluses; Edmonton, Ottawa-Hull, Toronto and Montreal reported labour shortages; the remainder were in approximate balance.

In the case of the major industrial areas, all those in the labour surplus category were in the Maritimes or in Quebec, where seasonal activity has not been sufficiently high to absorb all the labour available. The major agricultural areas were all in balance or experiencing labour shortages, as is true of nearly all minor areas.

With respect to specific occupations, waitresses and domestic servants were in demand in nearly all areas; textile workers were in demand in most metropolitan areas, and unskilled construction workers were in demand in most areas in the prairie provinces. In other regions there was a shortage of construction workers in certain local areas and a surplus in others. In Vancouver-New Westminster, a variety of metal working occupations were surplus, due mainly to the recent slackness in the forestry industries.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

LABOUR MARKET AREAS	LABOUR SURPLUS				APPROXIMATE BALANCE		LABOUR SHORTAGE	
	* 1		2		3		4	
	OCT. 52	SEPT. 52	OCT. 52	SEPT. 52	OCT. 52	SEPT. 52	OCT. 52	SEPT. 52
Metropolitan	-	1	2	2	4	5	4	2
Major industrial	-	-	8	8	12	12	8	8
Major agricultural	-	-	-	-	10	10	7	7
Minor	1	4	3	2	44	46	20	16
TOTALS	1	5	13	12	70	73	39	33

* For definition see below.

September saw a further rise in the trend of activity in the country as a whole. A gradual strengthening of demand for consumer goods and services, supported by a record grain crop and sustaining investment activity, was reflected in a tightening labour market. A survey of 123 classified areas showed the existence of labour shortages in six additional areas, bringing the total number in this category to 39. The number of paid workers in the 39 areas amounted to 44 per cent of the national total. The number of areas with labour surpluses dropped to 14, covering 15 per cent of all paid workers. These areas were located mainly in the Quebec and Atlantic regions.

Among metropolitan areas two still had a surplus supply of labour at the month end, but in one of these - Vancouver-New Westminster - conditions were improving rapidly as employment in the forest industries recovered from the effects of strikes and drought. In Quebec-Levis, however, the size of the persistent labour surplus showed little change, chiefly because hiring in the logging industry lagged behind the increasing number of applicants for bush work.

Classification of Areas

		RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT ON FILE WITH NES TO PAID WORKERS *			
CODE NO.	DEFINITION	METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREA	MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREA	MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREA	MINOR AREA
1	Labour Surplus	8% and over	10% and over	12% and over	12% and over
2	Labour Surplus	5 - 7.9%	5 - 9.9%	6 - 11.9%	6 - 11.9%
3	Approximate Balance	3 - 4.9%	3 - 4.9%	2 - 5.9%	2 - 5.9%
4	Labour Shortage	0 - 2.9%	0 - 2.9%	0 - 1.9%	0 - 1.9%

* Includes persons without jobs and seeking work.

Changes in labour market classifications of metropolitan and major areas from last month are shown in the following list:

Areas Changing from:

Group 1 to Group 2 - Vancouver-New Westminster
Group 2 to Group 3 - Oshawa, St. John's, Victoria
Group 3 to Group 4 - Edmonton, Montreal

Areas Changing from:

Group 3 to Group 2 - Moncton, New Glasgow

PACIFIC

The level of activity in British Columbia rose during September with the removal of the two factors--strikes and fire hazard in the logging industry--that have been hampering production during most of the summer season. Logging and sawmill employment, which had fallen from 44,000 in June to 12,000 in July, showed a gradual increase, although the industry was still operating below capacity at the end of the period. As there is no indication yet of any further shipments to the United Kingdom after the October 15 deadline, reduced levels of production are expected for the balance of the year.

Lower employment levels were also apparent in the fishing industry as a result of the reduced demand, particularly in export markets, for canned salmon. Large stocks were carried over from last year, and the heavy production at the beginning of the season caused operators to drop prices below what fishermen were willing to accept. The number of fishermen and cannery workers affected by the dispute, which was still unsettled at the end of the month, may be as high as 6,000.

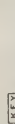
Other industrial sectors showed steady progress during the month. New contracts were awarded to shipbuilding firms and residential construction continued to show a gain over last year. At the end of the month a balance between labour demand and supply was apparent in most areas, the important exception being Vancouver-New Westminster where a surplus labour supply was still in evidence. Job applications, on file at N.E.S. offices totalled 23,500, which was 25 per cent lower than the figure for the previous month, but 6 per cent higher than a year earlier. The total represented 6 per cent of all paid workers in the region.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

OCTOBER 1, 1952

	LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE	LABOUR SHORTAGE
	1	2	3	4
METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS (labour force 75,000 and over)		Quebec - Levis Vancouver - New Westminster	Calgary Hamilton St. John's Winnipeg	Edmonton Montreal Ottawa - Hull Toronto
MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS (labour force 25,000 - 75,000: less than 40 per cent in agriculture)		Brantford Halifax Moncton New Glasgow St. Hyacinthe Saint John Shawinigan Falls Three Rivers	Cornwall Kingston Oshawa Peterborough Rouyn - Val d'Or St. Catharines Sarnia Sharbrooke Sydney Victoria Welland Windsor	Corner Brook Fort-William - Port Arthur Guelph Kitchener - Waterloo London Niagara Falls Sudbury Timmins
MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS (labour force 25,000 - 75,000: 40 per cent or more in agriculture)			Charlottetown Chatham Joliette Kentville Lethbridge Moose Jaw Prince Albert Rivière du Loup Saskatoon Thetford Mines	Barrie Brandon North Battleford Red Deer Regina Swift Current Yorkton
MINOR AREAS (labour force 10,000 - 25,000)	Chandler	Chilliwack Drummondville Valleyfield	Bathurst Belleville Bridgewater Buckingham Campbellton Causapscal Chicoutimi Edmundston Farnham Fort Erie - Port Colborne Fredericton Galt Granby Jonquière Kamloops Lachute La Malbaie Leamington Lindsay Listowel Montmagny Newcastle North Bay Owen Sound Pembroke Prince George Prince Rupert Rimouski Ste Anne de Bellevue St. Georges de Beauce St. Jean St. Jerome St. Joseph d'Alma St. Thérèse Sault Ste. Marie Sorel Stratford Summerside Trail Truro Victoriaville Walkerton Woodstock, Ont. Yarmouth	Bracebridge Brampton Dauphin Dawson Creek Drumheller Goderich Grand Falls Ingersoll Kenora Kirkland Lake Matane Medicine Hat Penticton Portage La Prairie St. Thomas Simcoe Trenton Vernon Weyburn Woodstock, N.B.

OCTOBER 1, 1952



KEY	
	RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT ON FILE WITH NEA TO PAID WORKERS ⁴

4. SHORTAGE
INCLUDES PERSONS WITHOUT JOBS AND SEEKING WORK

Metropolitan Areas. Almost two thirds of the workers in B.C. seeking employment through the National Employment Service were located in Vancouver-New Westminster, and although there was a drop of over 3,000 applications during the month, the remaining total was sufficiently high to keep the metropolitan area within the surplus category. Sawmills on the Fraser River were operating on both U.K. and local orders, but future prospects are indefinite, particularly for those mills that lack the planing and dry kiln equipment necessary to process lumber for the Canadian and United States' markets. Recruiting of logging crews increased rapidly with the opening of forest limits, but the largest operators do not expect employment to reach capacity levels. Stalemate in negotiations between fishermen and canning companies resulted in the immediate shutdown of some canneries, and reduced production in others.

Resumption of construction work after the strike settlement early in the month was accompanied by a tightening in the supply of such tradesmen as roofers, floor layers, cement finishers and woodworking machine operators, but the supply of carpenters and other construction workers was still well in excess of the demand and, because the season is far advanced, will probably remain so. The Aluminum Company construction project in northern B.C. still required rock tunnelmen and mucking machine operators and these workers were being transferred into the region from other parts of Canada.

Major Industrial Areas. In Victoria, the condition of labour surplus shifted during the month to one of approximate balance between supply and demand, chiefly because of the improved logging weather and the efforts of sawmill firms to fill export orders before the October 15 deadline. By the end of the month the demand for loggers exceeded the local supply and clearance procedure was necessary to meet requirements. Lay-offs at the two local shipyards continued despite an increase in conversion and industrial contracts, and substantial hiring is not expected until a new working agreement is signed.

Minor Areas. In almost all logging areas on Vancouver Island and other minor areas applications for employment at N.E.S. offices declined at a rapid rate. One exception was Prince Rupert, where the salmon canneries closed about a month earlier than usual. At the end of the month the supply of labour in almost all minor areas was inadequate or just adequate to meet seasonal demands.

PRAIRIE

There was a further rise in the level of economic activity during September, and a further strengthening of labour demand. At the end of the month there were no areas with labour surpluses although manpower requirements in southern agricultural areas eased noticeably as the harvest moved northward. With the maintenance of last year's level of defence and industrial construction and a gain in residential building, shortages of construction skills, in particular earth-moving equipment operators and carpenters, became more widespread.

The heavy seasonal demands were reflected in the number of workers registering with the National Employment Service. Applications reached a low point of 14,300 during the third week, rising again to 15,000 at October 2. Although this figure is not as low as it was at the same period a year ago, when expressed as a ratio of the region's growing number of paid workers (2.7 per cent), it has not been bettered since 1943.

From now on the numbers seeking work through the N.E.S. may be expected to rise steadily. This year, however, the record grain crop will tend to check the seasonal rise in unemployment, at least in its initial stages. Not only will the extra tonnage of oats and wheat require additional man-hours of transportation, but also the additional spending power in the farming section will make off-season work less necessary in many cases and, at the same time, will provide a powerful stimulus to business activity.

On the other hand, the forest industries have shown more definite signs of weakness. Pulpwood production may be reduced by as much as 50 per cent, while the fact that additional lumber orders from the United Kingdom have failed to materialize has caused some of the larger firms in British Columbia to reduce their scale of operations. Both of these industries provide off-season work for an important section of the prairie labour force. Usually, about 5,000 additional men are employed cutting pulp wood in the Lakehead district each winter, and an unknown but large number move to British Columbia.

Metropolitan Areas. Residential construction has been high in the metropolitan centres, exceeding all previous records in Calgary. Labour supply tightened in all three areas, although Edmonton was the only one where the position changed during the month from one of balance in the labour market to one of labour shortage. In this area local workers together with harvest excursionists were generally adequate for farming needs. Construction of two chemical plants, held up previously for lack of steel, was resumed and additional demands from such outlying projects as the new airport at Cold Lake, Alberta, became increasingly difficult

to meet. Carpenters and dragline and trenching machine operators were in greatest demand. In Winnipeg, employment in food processing industries increased steadily owing to heavy deliveries of livestock. Additional orders for defence and the Lynn Lake railway project have resulted in a marked expansion in the heavy steel industry.

Major Industrial Areas. Owing to high production during the past two years and some reduction in export demand for pulp and pulp wood, log inventories at the Lakehead mills have become excessive. Fort William-Port Arthur and all smaller areas in the district report a considerable reduction in the expected level of pulp-cutting employment this winter. This has already been reflected in a slight rise in the number of job applications at N.E.S. offices. As a result of ideal weather conditions and increased use of power saws, production during September exceeded the planned cut, and it was found necessary to lay off some bush workers. Paper mills, another major employer in the area, were still operating at capacity, and employment in the aircraft, shipbuilding and sawmilling industries was stable and high.

Major Agricultural and Minor Areas. There was little appreciable change in the remaining areas of the region. Of the seventeen areas with a labour force of more than 10,000, the labour supply was tight in thirteen and in balance with demand in the remaining four. Despite widespread rain, good progress in harvesting was made throughout the region, and there seemed little doubt that the 1,289,000,000 bushel yield of all field grains would be taken in successfully. Harvesting operations were near completion in Manitoba, about 70 per cent complete in Saskatchewan and about 50 per cent complete in Alberta. A total of 2,300 harvesters from eastern Canada were employed, which proved sufficient to meet additional requirements in most areas.

ONTARIO

The third quarter of 1952 showed a very marked increase in employment levels in Ontario as the manufacturing and construction industries continued to expand. By the beginning of October most areas had approximately balanced labour markets although the labour supply had become tight in some areas and shortages of carpenters and construction workers had appeared in a few others.

Emphasis in labour demand continued to shift from agriculture to construction during September and more recently the annual movement of labour to the logging camps began. Continuing strong demand for construction workers slowed recruiting for the bush but some sawmills

were closed during the first two weeks in October and the men were transferred to the woods. The log cut planned for this winter is considerably lower than last year's total but even so it will probably be some time before the camps are fully staffed.

Generally high levels of employment in the manufacturing, construction, and agricultural industries along with the commencement of hiring for woods work further reduced the total number of job applications on hand at N.E.S. offices in Ontario by 1,000 during the month ending October 2. The total of 42,800 at that date was lower than for the same date last year and for the previous month. Thus at the beginning of October total job applications were only about 2.7 per cent of all paid workers as compared with 3.0 per cent last year.

Metropolitan Areas. Expansion of employment in defence production, and consumer goods manufacturing and heightened activity in retail trade absorbed nearly all available manpower in the three metropolitan areas in Ontario. The iron and steel, railway rolling stock and textile industries were working at capacity in Hamilton, which had an approximately balanced labour market. At the end of September, however, there were shortages in this area of welders, primary textile workers, and domestic service workers. Toronto and Ottawa-Hull both had some labour shortages at the beginning of October. In Ottawa, machinists, tool makers, die setters and domestic servants were in short supply and there were shortages of engineers, secretaries, stenographers and typists, domestic service workers and waitresses in Toronto. Despite the low level of labour supplies, there remained some occupational surpluses: carpenters in both Toronto and Ottawa and welders, machinists, tool makers, die setters, and painters in Toronto. Moreover, most of the workers available were unwilling to accept short term jobs or alternative occupations.

Major Industrial Areas. Increased activity in food processing, textile, furniture, radio, rubber, and chemical production plus an upswing in residential construction during the late summer tightened the demand for labour in the major industrial areas in the region. At the beginning of October eight of the fifteen areas had balanced labour markets, in six there was a labour shortage and one, Brantford, had a slight surplus of labour.

The agricultural implement industries in Brantford had to lay off a substantial number of employees because the seasonal slack in domestic demand for farm machinery has not been taken up by export orders this year. Most other manufacturers in the area were working at near capacity. While Windsor appears in the balanced labour market category, there were several temporary lay-offs because of steel shortage and model change-over during the past month. Most of these were of short duration but Chrysler Corporation laid off about 2,000 for approximately 30 days.

Heavy demands for construction workers for residential building in Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and Niagara Falls and for the hydro project at Niagara Falls caused a tight labour market in these areas. London continued to have a shortage of qualified farm hands and of competent secretaries, stenographers and typists. In Sudbury and Timmins, recruiting started for work in the bush with very few loggers available. There were still openings for qualified miners in both areas.

Major Agricultural Areas. Harvest of most crops was completed by the end of September and fall work was nearly finished so that there was little demand for farm hands. There were some requests for single men for year-round work but very few of these are available now. Labour was still in short supply in the Barrie area and demand will remain high until the completion of some of the construction projects at Camp Borden. Chatham, on the other hand, had a generally balanced labour market although there was some shortage of food and tobacco workers. Tomato processing was completed early in October but most of the workers released by the canning plants were hired by the sugar refineries which were just beginning production in October.

Minor Areas. Of the 21 minor local office areas in Ontario, 13 had approximately balanced labour markets while eight had some labour shortage. The seasonal expansion in food and tobacco processing during the latter part of September brought St. Thomas, Simcoe, and Trenton from a generally balanced labour market grouping to the shortage areas. Labour continued in short supply in Bracebridge, Brampton, Goderich, Ingersoll, and Kirkland Lake because of the high level of construction, quarrying and mining in these areas. Moreover, hiring started for most of the logging camps in the Kirkland Lake and Bracebridge areas. Completion of some parts of the defence construction projects at Centralia and Clinton should relieve the shortage of labour at Goderich and with the completion of most of the fruit and vegetable processing and general seasonal slackening in outside construction work, shortages in most areas in Ontario should ease somewhat during October.

QUEBEC Employment and production during September continued along the lines of expansion already evident late in July and August. Seasonal pressures were at their greatest in most types of work connected with outdoor activity and labour shortages were growing. Although most expansion was temporary an important part reflected the needs of defence industries and stronger consumer demand, thus indicating a growing non-seasonal level of activity.

Added to the strong demands of construction and agriculture, logging operators were hiring on the usual scale for the season during most of September, with employment just slightly below last year's total at the comparable date. Just when the impact of the reduction in the wood cut anticipated by most employers will reach the labour market is not clear, but it may well coincide with reductions in the unusually large construction crews now involved in road, industrial and railway work. Its adverse effects had not, however, been reflected in the employment scene to any extent in September.

The slump in production in the clothing, boot and shoe industry during the past year had caused the loss of many skilled workers and now that production is returning to normal, shortages of certain skills are appearing. During September, the clothing industry was particularly in need of trained help and it was endeavouring to meet this need by recalling former employees who were married, by extending its search throughout the region and by training inexperienced help. Employment in the textile industry was recovering more gradually and hiring was still a little slow in the Eastern townships where most of the textile firms are situated.

Applications for employment at N.E.S. offices fell from 46,900 at August 28 to 42,800 at September 25, increasing by 1,500 during the following week to total 44,300 at October 2.

Metropolitan Areas. Montreal experienced an exceptional level of activity during September and the position of the area shifted from one of approximate balance to one of labour shortage. The most significant aspect of this change was the accelerated hiring in construction and clothing firms. The earlier hesitancy in employing construction workers in the Montreal area disappeared and many men were hired during July and August. An active demand also developed in the expansion projects in the Seven Islands, Ungava district and in the Lake St. John area, so that by the end of September there was a general shortage of workers in the construction trades. Similarly, a substantial increase in demand occurred in the clothing industry during the past two months and skilled requirements were outstripping labour supplies.

In Quebec City the construction and clothing industries were of less importance and labour surpluses of a moderate size were reported throughout the summer. Nevertheless, with the exception of some slackness in the textile industry and in a few firms manufacturing paper products, production was reported at a high level and industries were planning further expansion. Hiring was heavy in logging during September but applications for employment in this industry were correspondingly numerous. The chronic difficulty of placing the large numbers of persons

registered for clerical or factory work continued since few suitable jobs were available. Domestic employment was available but applicants as a whole were not interested. In Levis, conditions were recovering from the disturbing effects of the labour dispute in its major industry, shipbuilding, but hiring was slow.

Major Industrial Areas. The five areas in this group have expansion projects under way and most of the industries indicated rising employment levels. There is, however, little diversification in the industrial structure of these areas. Paper, pulp, textiles, knit goods and some metal products industries predominate and contraction in one or more of these industries has a noticeable effect on the employment situation in the area as a whole. As a result of the surplus of some types of paper products and the decrease in textile production during the first half of the year, labour surpluses prevailed in three of the five areas. Labour disputes also caused some slackness. Sherbrooke, with a more diversified economy than the others, reported a balanced labour position. Rouyn-Val d'Or also had a balanced labour market, an indication of the high degree of expansion in exploration work underway in the north-west section of the province.

Major Agricultural Area. The three areas classified as mainly agricultural continued in the balanced labour group. The fishing catch in the areas appeared profitable and farm produce and crops generally provided good returns. However, this phase of activity as well as the road work and some of the mining activities in the vicinity will be drawing to a close shortly and employment during the winter will largely depend on the level of logging activities. Workers were leaving during September for temporary jobs in potato picking in the United States and others will be following for work in the United States woods.

Minor Areas. As is the case in the major agricultural areas, many minor areas such as Chandler, Matane, Rimouski, depend largely on the logging industry for employment during the winter. To date, operators in the Gaspé area have shown little inclination to build up their logging crews but employers on the North Shore were hiring actively, although they expected a shorter season. Workers as usual will move to these jobs from the South Shore of the St. Lawrence where help in general has been plentiful. Balanced labour conditions were reported in most of the Lake St. John-Saguenay River area, the centre of considerable power development projects.

ATLANTIC

During September employment conditions continued to improve in the Atlantic region. The number of applications for employment on file at N.E.S. offices fell during the month by 300 to a new low for 1952 of 17,900 at October 2. At the end of September 1951, the total was 14,700 and at the same time in 1950 it was 22,000. The 1952 figure of 17,900 is about 3.5 per cent of the labour force and 4.5 per cent of paid workers in this region.

The decrease of 300 in applications was the net result of declines in some occupations and increases in others. Among males, applications from farm hands, seamen, loggers and bushmen, carpenters and various types of unskilled workers declined; applications rose among sales clerks, service workers, primary textile workers, metal workers, especially structural iron and steel men, stationary engineers and automobile mechanics. In the case of women, applications declined from waitresses, secondary textile workers and various categories of unskilled workers, while they increased from workers in clerical, sales, and service occupations.

Metropolitan Areas. St. John's, Newfoundland, the only metropolitan labour market in this region, had a balanced labour market at the end of September. The bright spots were railway transportation and construction. Railway freight traffic was 50 per cent above 1951 levels and construction of many types--residential, industrial and military--was very active. Fishing was generally good and new equipment is being introduced although the industry's relative importance in Newfoundland is declining. A successful whaling season is in progress. Trade was very active which is normal for St. John's in September. Recruiting for work on the Seven Islands--Knob Hill railway was being carried out there, thus reducing the amount of labour available.

Major Industrial Areas. Of the six local areas in this region classified in the major industrial group, Corner Brook was in the labour shortage group at the end of September, Sydney had a balanced labour market and the remaining four, Halifax, New Glasgow, Moncton, and St. John, were in the labour surplus category.

Corner Brook is enjoying marked activity in all industries--farming, fishing, forestry, construction, manufacturing and trade. At Sydney, the weak spots were agriculture, due to lack of rain at the end of September, and fish processing. Fishermen had a successful season but not enough fish were caught to keep processing plants busy. Otherwise the labour market at Sydney was healthy. The Halifax labour market was affected by small catches of fish which kept processing plants on short time and by the quiet condition of the waterfront, which however, became more active toward the end of September. At New Glasgow, the low level

of woods activity and layoffs in the manufacture of railway rolling stock created a labor surplus. Moncton was affected by low transportation activity and the return of men who had completed their contracts to work on northern construction projects. Saint John was affected by the low level of activity in the woods and in fishing and by a decreased demand for farm help.

Major Agricultural Areas. Both of the areas in this group, Charlottetown and Kentville, had a balanced labour market at the end of September. At Charlottetown the overall farming picture was only fair to good due to smaller crops and in the case of beef and pork, low prices. Prospects for the potato harvest however, were excellent at the end of September and this is expected to materially improve the general farming picture. Other lines of activity appeared to be in average condition. Kentville had some unfilled demand for apple pickers, and cranberry rakers. Construction was active and local textile plants were operating normally.

Minor Areas. Of the eleven minor labour market areas in this region, two, Grand Falls and Woodstock, were in the labour shortage category and the remaining nine had a balanced labour market at the end of September. Grand Falls was enjoying a high level of activity in all industries except fishing and fish processing. At Woodstock the potato harvest was under way and logging was gaining momentum although the cut was expected to be below last year's.

In the other minor areas the potato harvest had generally been delayed due to late plantings. Fishing was about average and logging was expected to be below last year's level. Sawmills had largely completed their cut by the end of September. Manufacturing was below average but wholesale and retail trade was on the increase in almost all areas. On the whole, there was little construction activity in minor areas. A considerable movement of potato pickers to Maine created temporary difficulties for some employers.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The labour market areas have been divided into four broad groups or areas on the basis of the size of the labour force and the proportion of the labour force that is engaged in agriculture. The classification of the groups or areas is shown at the bottom of page 6.

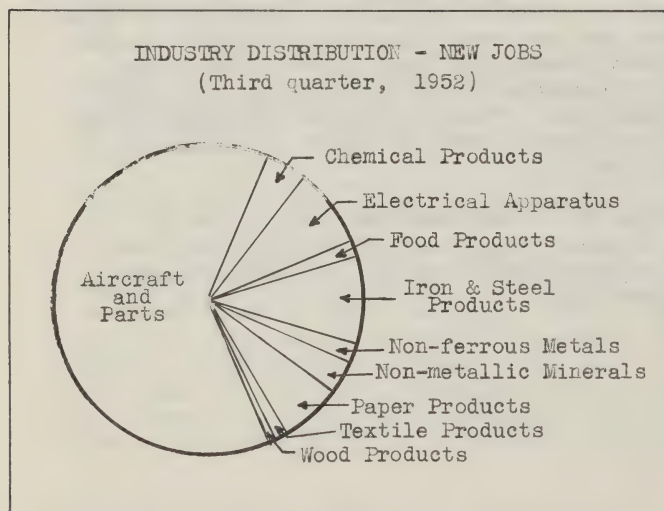
In determining the definitions of higher and lower degrees of labour surplus, approximate balance between labour supply and demand, and labour shortage, a number of significant factors were taken into account. For example, a high ratio of N.E.S. job applications to all paid workers (including persons without jobs and seeking work), is more significant in a metropolitan area where employment is normally more stable than it is in an area in which seasonal industries predominate. Furthermore, this ratio normally fluctuates over a greater range during the year in "major agricultural" and "minor" areas than it does in "metropolitan" areas. Similarly, a condition of labour shortage becomes apparent when the ratio is somewhat higher in larger areas than in smaller areas, because the "hard core" of unemployed generally forms a greater proportion of the labour force in a large area than it does in a small one. These factors are reflected in the labour rating in the classification shown on page 6 and in the key accompanying the map on page 9.

Labour conditions in the various areas, which give a representative coverage of about 95 per cent of the country's labour force, are shown in the summary table (page 6), the detailed chart (page 8) and the map (page 9).

PLANT EXPANSION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN MANUFACTURING, THIRD QUARTER 1952

During the quarter July to September inclusive, industrial expansion involving new plants and plant extensions in manufacturing industries, created a large number of new jobs for Canadian workers. A plant expansion survey for the third quarter of 1952 just completed by the Economics and Research Branch of the Department of Labour reveals that a total of over 12,000 new jobs became available in manufacturing industries during the quarter. To date in 1952, more new jobs (over 22,000) have become available than in any year since 1948, the year the survey was first carried out, when 16,000 new jobs were created.

The present expansion is largely concentrated in the defence sector of Canada's economy, whereas in former years expansion was concentrated in consumer goods industries. Approximately 75 per cent of the new jobs opening up in manufacturing this year as the result of plant expansion were in the aircraft, electrical apparatus, and iron and steel industries.



Major expansion has taken place in the Canadian aircraft industry. In the third quarter of 1952, 3,000 new jobs opened up in a new aircraft engine plant in the metropolitan area of Montreal, while a new jet engine plant in the metropolitan area of Toronto, will require about the same number of workers. In the Maritimes, about 500 new workers are required in Amherst, Nova Scotia. So far in 1952 about

12,000 new jobs have been created in the aircraft industry as a result of new plants and plant extensions, largely centred around Toronto and Montreal.

The expansion of the Canadian electrical apparatus industry in the third quarter of 1952 continues a trend which started after the last war, although current expansion is in response to demand for defence goods, and natural resource development, such as hydro-electric expansion, rather than consumer goods. A new radar equipment plant in the metropolitan area of

Toronto will employ about 800 workers by November; at Montreal, a firm producing industrial process control instruments has completed a plant extension requiring 100 new workers. A Canadian aviation electronics firm, which also manufactures a wide range of goods for other industries, has built two new plants this year, one at Winnipeg, completed in the second quarter and employing 100 workers, and recently a plant at Vancouver B.C. which required 30 highly skilled electronics engineers and technicians. In 1951 this firm completed a plant extension at Montreal employing 250 additional workers. Another Montreal firm producing industrial process controls, recently completed a large plant extension employing 100 additional workers. This listing includes the larger expansion projects completed in the third quarter of 1952 in the electrical apparatus industry. To date this year over 3,200 new jobs have been created in this industry of which 1,000 became available in the third quarter. This total exceeds any previous quarterly figure of new job opportunities created during the past five years.

Industrial expansion in the diversified iron and steel industry is high in firms producing primary iron and steel products, machinery and equipment, tools, etc., but has dropped off in firms producing hardware, heating and cooking appliances, iron castings, and sheet metal products. Thus, while the total number of new jobs opening up in the iron and steel industry is very high, not all sectors of the industry are expanding. Expansion of plant facilities in the iron and steel group in the third quarter of 1952 required over 1,000 new workers, with a total for the year of over 3,000 to date. The largest project in the third quarter, was a new plant to produce marine turbines for escort vessels at Toronto, Ontario, employing 800 workers. At Beauharnois, Quebec, a 3 million dollar plant extension for the production of ferro-silicon to relieve Canada's dependence on imports of this defence material, was completed and is employing 100 new workers. In all, there were thirteen expansion projects in this industry group, but most employment increases were small.

The Canadian chemical products industry is still carrying out marked expansion, although this is concentrated mainly in what could be termed industrial chemicals, rather than consumer type chemical products such as cosmetics, and pharmaceuticals. However, the high level of investment has produced only minor additions to staff because of the industry's low labour requirement.

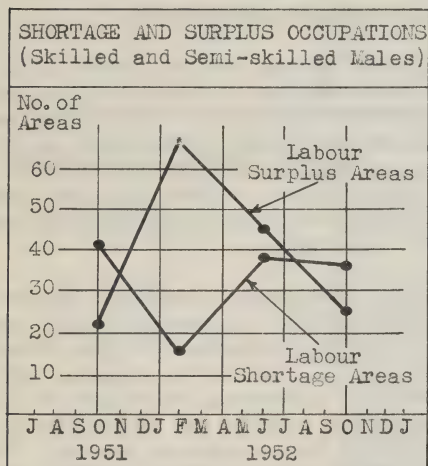
A chemical company at Sarnia, Ontario for example, spent 10 million dollars on two new plants and one plant extension which when completed required only about 60 new workers. A new sulphur dioxide plant at Copper Cliff, Ontario required 50-75 new workers.

A large chemical plant extension at Niagara Falls, Ontario, which will produce chemicals for explosives, required the largest number of new workers reported for the third quarter - 100 workers. The total of five hundred new jobs reported for the chemical industry during the third quarter of this year does not appear high, when compared to the figures for the aircraft, electrical apparatus and iron and steel industries, but investment is very high in relation to other industries.

In the pulp and paper industry, several of the larger projects started some time ago, were recently completed. The 22 million dollar newsprint mill at Duncan Bay, Vancouver Island recently began operating and now employs about 500 workers. A paper specialties firm at New Westminster B.C. hired about 65 new workers, while a pulp mill at Prince Rupert, B.C. will require a small number of new workers.

While current industrial expansion is being carried out vigorously in a few industries, expansion has shown a marked drop in other sectors. The heavy slump in textiles in 1951 resulted in a marked drop in new jobs in this industry to date in 1952. Very little new work is underway in other consumer goods industries.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES



Trend lines show the number of areas in which there were shortages and surpluses of one or more occupational skills.

in the Pacific and Maritime regions.

The number of areas reporting shortages of certain occupations, by the last week in September, exceeded those reporting surpluses by 36 to 25. However, no widespread shortages appeared and although some 22 skilled and 7 unskilled occupations were in short supply in one or more labour market areas at that time, 9 of these same occupations were in surplus supply in other areas.

Metropolitan Areas. Of the 10 metropolitan areas in Canada, St. John's Nfld. was the only area reporting no occupational shortages the last week in September. The only occupations in short supply in more than one metropolitan area were waitresses in Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg, unskilled construction workers in Calgary, Edmonton, and Winnipeg, textile workers in Montreal, Hamilton, Winnipeg and Vancouver-New Westminster and domestic service workers in all areas but St. John's and Vancouver. The largest number of surplus occupations was in Vancouver-New Westminster where auto mechanics, woodworkers, carpenters, crane men and shovelmen, electricians, food and tobacco workers, loggers and bushmen, machinists, toolmakers and die setters, painters, plumbers and steam fitters, seamen, and welders were in the surplus category. However, at the end of September the supply of carpenters exceeded demand in all of the metropolitan areas except Calgary, Edmonton and Hamilton. Toronto had surplus machinists,

During the month of September continued high levels of employment in construction, manufacturing, and agriculture and the commencement of logging operations created a tight labour market in many areas in Canada. Shortages of farm hands in the Prairie and Maritime regions, and of domestic service workers and waitresses in most of the larger centers in the country continued throughout the month. Moreover, by the end of September there was an increase in both the number and extent of local area shortages of carpenters and unskilled construction workers on the prairies and of loggers and bushmen in Quebec. On the other hand, there were still surpluses of carpenters in 18 areas chiefly in Quebec and the Maritime provinces and of loggers and bushmen

painters, welders, and secondary textile workers, while Montreal had surpluses of draughtsmen, painters, seamen and welders.

Major Industrial Areas. The labour markets in the major industrial areas were in approximate balance at the end of September with some occupational shortages appearing in only 6 and surpluses in 9 of the 28 areas. Carpenters appeared in both categories; in short supply in Oshawa and Saint John, and surplus in Halifax, Moncton, Shawinigan Falls, Three Rivers and Victoria. Other shortages were for unskilled construction workers in Moncton, Oshawa and St. John and for farm workers in London and St. Hyacinthe.

Major Agricultural Areas. The heavy harvest on the prairies maintained a strong demand for farm workers who were in short supply in Brandon, Lethbridge, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Red Deer, Regina and Saskatoon as well as in Barrie, Ontario and Charlottetown, P.E.I. There were also widespread shortages of domestic service workers, unskilled construction workers and carpenters in the major agricultural areas, particularly in the prairie region. There were no occupational surpluses in these areas, while 14 of the 17 areas had shortages.

Minor Areas. Only four of the minor areas had shortages of more than one occupational category at the end of September; farm workers and loggers in Edmunston, unskilled transportation workers and loggers in North Bay, domestic service workers and loggers in Chicoutimi, and engineers, machinists, tool makers, die setters, and other machine shop workers in Sorel.

Local Occupational Shortages - Male
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Farm Hands	48	0
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	173	7
Edmonton	Unskilled Construction Workers	359	23
"	Unskilled Transportation Workers	39	2
Hamilton	Primary Textile Workers	45	18
"	Welders	142	25

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Montreal	Routemen	128	43
Ottawa-Hull	Machinists, Tool Makers & Die Setters	114	2
Toronto	Service Workers	121	56
"	Engineers	45	9
Winnipeg	Sales Personnel	114	68
"	Secondary Textile Workers	38	13
"	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	37	1
"	Unskilled Textile Workers	42	15
"	Unskilled Miners	32	5
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	286	157
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Halifax	Machinists Toolmakers & Die Setters	59	10
London	Farm Workers	40	9
Moncton	Unskilled Construction Workers	161	88
Oshawa	Carpenters	61	19
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	78	53
St. Hyacinthe	Farm Workers	200	0
Saint John	Carpenters	196	80
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	174	13
<u>Major Agricultural Areas</u>			
Barrie	Farm Workers	42	0
Brandon	Farm Workers	125	9
Charlottetown	Farm Workers	51	1
Chatham	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	306	4
Joliette	Loggers & Bushmen	48	4
Lethbridge	Farm Workers	62	3
"	Miners	70	2
"	Carpenters	49	6
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	101	4
Moose Jaw	Farm Workers	51	7
"	Carpenters	75	2
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	189	9

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Major Agricultural Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
North Battleford	Farm Workers	53	0
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	45	4
Prince Albert	Farm Workers	84	7
Red Deer	Farm Workers	48	2
" "	Carpenters	32	0
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	73	7
Regina	Farm Workers	43	0
"	Taxi, Truck & Tractor Drivers	49	6
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	169	8
Saskatoon	Farm Workers	41	9
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	65	18
Swift Current	Carpenters	39	1
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	75	0
<u>Minor Areas</u>			
Chandler	Longshoremen	89	34
Chicoutimi	Loggers & Bushmen	228	3
Dauphin	Farm Workers	126	0
Drumheller	Miners	41	5
Edmundston	Farm Workers	65	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	91	23
Fredericton	Loggers & Bushmen	104	9
Goderich	Unskilled Construction Workers	41	0
Matane	Loggers & Bushmen	374	0
Medicine Hat	Unskilled Construction Workers	29	1
North Bay	Loggers & Bushmen	54	12
" "	Unskilled Transportation Workers	53	10
Portage la Prairie	Unskilled Construction Workers	38	13
Prince George	Unskilled Lumber Products Workers	48	3
Rimouski	Loggers & Bushmen	150	7
St. Georges de Beauce	Loggers & Bushmen	285	5
St. Joseph d'Alma	Loggers & Bushmen	181	3
Sault Ste. Marie	Unskilled Construction Workers	52	16
Sorel	Engineers	50	0
"	Machinists Toolmakers & Die Setters	50	3
"	Other Machine Shop Workers	27	0
Woodstock N.B.	Farm Workers	75	0

Local Occupational Shortage - Female
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Waitresses	96	19
"	Domestic Service Workers	251	64
Edmonton	Waitresses	101	19
"	Domestic Service Workers	256	59
Hamilton	Domestic Service Workers	123	77
Montreal	Waitresses	214	176
"	Domestic Service Workers	379	164
"	Secondary Textile Workers	1,341	677
"	Unskilled Textile Workers	478	201
"	Unskilled Leather Workers	58	13
Ottawa-Hull	Domestic Service Workers	276	128
Quebec-Levis	Domestic Service Workers	322	227
Toronto	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	692	268
"	Waitresses	379	101
"	Domestic Service Workers	625	131
Vancouver-			
New Westminster	Unskilled Textile Workers	48	5
Winnipeg	Waitresses	156	91
"	Domestic Service Workers	320	92
"	Secondary Textile Workers	351	140
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Halifax	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	57	32
"	Waitresses	60	13
"	Domestic Service Workers	151	31
"	Food & Tobacco Workers	34	0
"	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	47	4
Kingston	Building Service Workers	39	2
London	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	66	41
"	Sales Personnel	74	32
"	Waitresses	70	10

Local Occupational Shortage - Female (Cont'd)
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
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Major Industrial Areas (Concl'd)

London	Domestic Service Workers	250	101
St. Hyacinthe	Secondary Textile Workers	62	32
Sudbury	General Office Clerks	44	3
"	Sales Personnel	80	11

Major Agricultural Areas

Barrie	Farm Workers	35	0
Brandon	Domestic Service Workers	67	4
Charlottetown	Domestic Service Workers	56	26
Chatham	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	242	7
Lethbridge	Domestic Service Workers	43	5
Moose Jaw	Domestic Service Workers	60	23
Regina	Domestic Service Workers	112	15
"	Waitresses	62	4
Saskatoon *	Teachers	325	7
"	Domestic Service Workers	99	52
Thetford Mines	Sales Personnel	49	14

Minor Areas

Chicoutimi	Domestic Service Workers	62	12
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* Teachers Office, Province of Saskatchewan.

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Applications Listed	Vacancies Listed
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Metropolitan Areas

Montreal	Carpenters	288	26
"	Draughtsmen	265	46

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Montreal	Painters	218	28
"	Seamen	91	0
"	Welders	138	27
Ottawa-Hull	Carpenters	94	4
Quebec-Levis	Carpenters	176	9
St. John's	Carpenters	84	4
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	102	0
Toronto	Carpenters	373	28
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	117	41
"	Painters	170	8
"	Secondary Textile Workers	301	13
"	Welders	111	30
Vancouver-			
New Westminster	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	130	6
"	Cabinetmakers & Woodworkers	91	14
"	Carpenters	727	9
"	Cranemen & Shovelmen	90	2
"	Electricians	159	5
"	Food & Tobacco Workers	117	8
"	Loggers & Bushmen	503	12
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	374	33
"	Painters	165	4
"	Plumbers & Steamfitters	88	1
"	Seamen	401	45
"	Welders	211	2
Winnipeg	Carpenters	135	21
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Corner Brook	Loggers & Bushmen	113	0
Cornwall	Pulp, Paper & Paper Goods Workers	63	0
Fort William - Port Arthur	Loggers & Bushmen	103	3

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Concl'd)
September 25, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Major Industrial Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Halifax	Carpenters	88	21
Moncton	Carpenters	68	10
New Glasgow	Structural Iron & Steel Workers	180	0
Shawinigan Falls	Carpenters	56	2
Three Rivers	Carpenters	86	2
Victoria	Carpenters	111	5
<u>Minor Areas</u>			
Bathurst	Carpenters	49	1
"	Loggers & Bushmen	100	0
Bridgewater	Carpenters	26	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	51	0
Campbellton	Loggers & Bushmen	86	0
Chandler	Carpenters	118	9
Chilliwack	Loggers & Bushmen	73	6
Pembroke	Carpenters	56	13
St. Joseph d'Alma	Carpenters	74	7
Valleyfield	Carpenters	92	0
"	Primary Textile Workers	68	0
Yarmouth	Carpenters	50	0

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The preceding tables are based primarily on National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers.

The table on local occupational shortages shows the occupations in each area where the vacancies exceeded the applications by twenty-five or more. Male and female workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations are dealt with separately.

The table on local occupations surpluses covers male workers only and is compiled on the following basis:

Labour force in the area:	Areas Listed if excess of applications over vacancies is:
75,000 and over	75 or more
25,000 to 75,000	50 or more
10,000 to 25,000	25 or more

In this table, unskilled workers are not listed and some service occupations as well as certain other occupational groups (e.g. foremen, apprentices, etc.) are excluded.

Both tables are adjusted in the light of qualitative information on employment in Canada during the period covered. This includes reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by local employment office managers. As a result of the examination of these data some occupations and areas may be deleted from the preliminary tables and others, for which the statistical evidence is less conclusive, may be added.

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS - PRELIMINARY DATA

Items	1952		Percentage Change	
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>				
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.....	Oct. 2	142,839	- 9.2	+ 9.1
Per cent of labour force.....	Oct. 2	2.6	2.9*	2.5*
Per cent of paid workers (1).....	Oct. 2	3.5	3.9*	3.4*
Ordinary claimants for benefit, U.I.C.(2)	Sept.1	101,980	- 9.4	(3)
Per cent of insured population.....	Sept.1	3.3	3.6*	(3)
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Sept.1	64.9	54.1*	(3)
Amount of benefit payments (\$000).....	August	6,239	- 0.9	+69.8
Index of employment (1939 = 100).....	August 1	188.1	+ 1.4	+ 2.1
Immigration.....	August	11,285	-32.4	-34.5
<u>Earnings and Income</u>				
Total labour income (\$000,000).....	July	905	+ 1.5	+ 9.4
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	August 1	\$53.87	- 0.2	+ 7.4
Average hourly earnings (mfg.).....	August 1	\$ 1.29	+ 0.3	+ 8.3
Average hours worked per week (mfg.)....	August 1	41.1	- 0.5	- 0.7
Average weekly earnings (mfg.).....	August 1	\$53.02	- 0.2	+ 7.5
Cost-of-living index (Av. 1935-39 = 100)	Sept. 1	186.5	- 0.6	- 1.7
Real weekly earnings (mfg.av. 1946=100)...	August 1	116.9	0.0	+ 8.2
<u>Industrial Production</u>				
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	July	210.8	- 3.3	+ 1.3
Manufacturing.....	July	213.8	- 4.1	+ 0.1
Durables.....	July	252.1	- 7.7	+ 0.4
Non-durables.....	July	191.4	- 1.2	- 0.1
<u>Industrial Relations</u>				
Strikes and lockouts - days lost.....	September	203,245	- 1.1	+73.0

* These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

- (1) Includes persons without jobs and seeking work.
- (2) Not including claimants on temporary mass lay-offs.
- (3) Not comparable with last year's total.

C A N A D I A N

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Minister

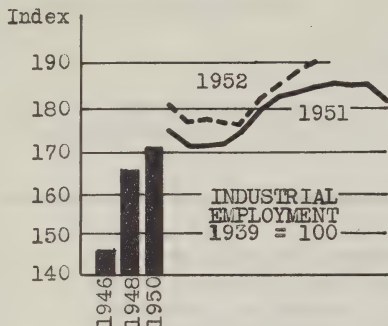
Arthur MacNamara, C.M.G.,
LL.D., Deputy Minister.

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

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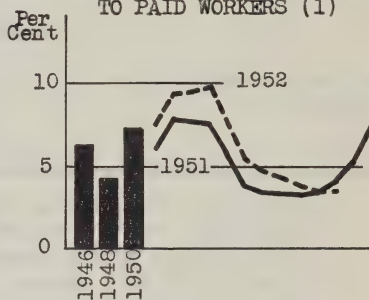
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LABOUR MARKET TRENDS



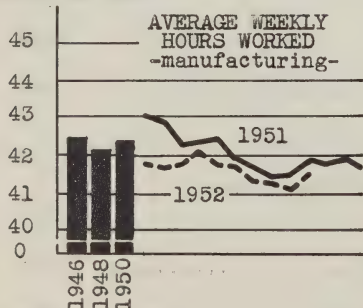
Sep. 1, 1952.....	190.1
Jun. 1, 1952.....	182.5
Mar. 1, 1952.....	178.0
Dec. 1, 1951.....	186.6
Sep. 1, 1951.....	185.4
Sep. 1, 1950.....	174.1
Sep. 1, 1948.....	169.9
Sep. 1, 1946.....	148.0

RATIO OF JOB APPLICATIONS
TO PAID WORKERS (1)



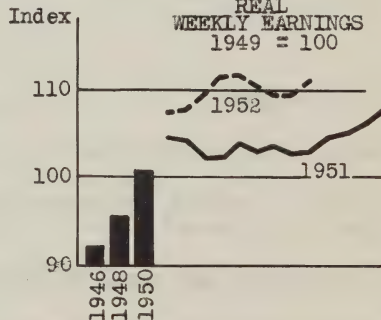
Nov. 1, 1952.....	3.7
Aug. 1, 1952.....	4.4
May 1, 1952.....	7.8
Feb. 1, 1952.....	9.2
Nov. 1, 1951.....	4.0
Nov. 1, 1950.....	3.9
Nov. 1, 1948.....	2.9
Nov. 1, 1946.....	4.0

Hours Per Week



Sep. 1, 1952.....	41.6
Jun. 1, 1952.....	41.3
Mar. 1, 1952.....	41.7
Dec. 1, 1951.....	41.9
Sep. 1, 1951.....	41.5
Sep. 1, 1950.....	41.9
Sep. 1, 1948.....	41.7
Sep. 1, 1946.....	42.7

REAL
WEEKLY EARNINGS
1949 = 100



Sep. 1, 1952.....	111.3
Jun. 1, 1952.....	110.7
Mar. 1, 1952.....	109.3
Dec. 1, 1951.....	105.9
Sep. 1, 1951.....	103.0
Sep. 1, 1950.....	100.6
Sep. 1, 1948.....	94.0
Sep. 1, 1946.....	91.9

(1) Ratio of live applications for employment at N. E. S. offices to all paid workers (includes persons without jobs and seeking work)

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

The increasingly higher year to year employment levels recorded for August and September, continued into October, keeping the labour force quite fully occupied. By the end of the month, however, the impact of changes in the volume of seasonal activity in various industries was reflected in a levelling off of the overall employment level.

Many seasonal employment shifts usually take place at this time of year. Farm employment declines with the completion of harvesting—and with it the production and sale of farm implements. Activities such as fishing, canning and preserving decline or cease. Construction tapers off gradually, the rate of decline depending on weather conditions. Employment in construction was higher in recent months than during the same period last year, and it is likely to continue at a higher level as long as weather conditions permit.

On the other hand, logging activity in Eastern Canada increases at this time of year, so that usually there is a shift in the pattern of seasonal employment, with farm hands, fishermen and some construction workers moving into woods work during the fall and winter months. Activity usually increases during the fall in the various consumer goods industries also as both producers and distributors prepare for the Christmas selling season. Vehicles are an exception, since the market usually falls off at this season and manufacturers employ the time for model changeovers.

The labour market at present reflects the shifting employment pattern depicted above. Total applications for employment registered with National Employment Service offices at November 13, totalled 167,600, an increase of about 25,000 since the first of October, but 11,500 less than at the same date in 1951. There was a noticeable increase in applications during the first half of November, particularly in the Quebec and Atlantic regions, where the slackening of activity in agriculture and construction, resulted in heavy registrations for logging employment in some local areas. Analysis of employment data, however, indicates a slower rate of hirings for logging in most regions than in 1951, substantiating earlier forecasts of a lower pulpwood cut this winter.

Seasonal activity in most of the consumer goods industries, on the other hand, continued above that of last year. The strength of this sector was apparent from data on sales and personal income levels. Year to year increases in retail sales persisted during the summer. In September, total retail sales were still running at levels over 6 per cent higher than in 1951, and department store sales were 20 per cent higher than in the previous year.

While instalment buying was clearly on the increase, it was also evident that rising personal income levels were supporting this increase in sales activity. Labour income, for example, with a fairly stable consumers price level, showed a year-to-year increase of about 12 per cent during the first seven months of 1952. Farm cash income, another component of consumer income, is expected to be as large or larger in 1952 than in 1951. Since inventories at most levels have been worked down to the point where they are no longer out of line with current sales, most manufacturers are quite optimistic, and present employment levels reflect this optimism.

The emphasis in defence expenditures is now swinging away from non-durable to durable items. Procurements for such items as clothing and footwear have fallen off, while the production of weapons, munitions electronics and aircraft is mounting. Consequently, employment levels in industries manufacturing these items have been rising substantially in recent months, and will continue to rise for some months to come.

An indication of the present labour market situation can be obtained from the following table:

Region	Applications for Employment on file at National Employment Service Offices		
	Nov. 13/52	Change from Nov. 6/52	
		Nov. 15, 51	
Atlantic	21,900	+ 1,800	+ 3,600
Quebec	51,000	+ 2,600	+ 1,800
Ontario	48,900	+ 2,700	-12,100
Prairies	20,100	+ 1,500	- 4,000
Pacific	25,700	+ 1,700	- 800
Canada	167,600	+10,300	-11,500

This table illustrates contrasting developments in the various regions. In Ontario, where the bulk of the consumer goods industries is located, registrations continued to run at a level well below last year's. The employment effects of the recent grain harvest, together with a high level of construction activity, were also apparent in the lower level of registrations in the Prairies, while in British Columbia construction activity was being pushed in an attempt to recover ground lost in the recent strike before the winter sets in. In all three regions weather conditions have been favourable to outdoor activity.

In the Quebec and Atlantic regions, registrations increased in the last few weeks, even on a year-to-year basis, thus reflecting in large part the fairly heavy registrations for employment in the woods.

Aside from general strengthening of the consumer goods industries in recent months, the most interesting, and to some extent unexpected development, was the increase of residential construction compared with previous months, and the high level of activity for this time of year. Housing starts in August, for example, totalled 7,291, an increase of about 2,000 over the same month in 1951, and there are indications that this year-to-year gain continued during September and October.

Construction activity at present is widespread and not confined to housing. A good deal of work is underway in resource development areas and on industrial sites. There is little doubt that the plan of contractors to complete as much outside work as possible before winter, sustained employment levels at a higher level than is customary at this time of year. There are also indications that activity in housing and industrial construction this winter will be greater than last year, and insofar as weather conditions permit, will provide relatively more employment.

According to a recent employment forecast carried out by the Department of Labour, employers in manufacturing expect a year-to-year increase in employment of about 5 per cent at January 1, 1953, and 4 per cent at April 1, 1953. This forecast is largely substantiated by information at present available on trends in employment, production and sales. It appears then that the labour force will be slightly more fully utilized this winter than last, although lower employment levels in logging will continue to exert a depressing influence in certain areas.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

LABOUR MARKET AREAS	LABOUR SURPLUS				APPROXIMATE BALANCE		LABOUR SHORTAGE	
	* 1		2		3		4	
	Nov. 52	Oct. 52	Nov. 52	Oct. 52	Nov. 52	Oct. 52	Nov. 52	Oct. 52
Metropolitan			2	2	4	4	4	4
Major industrial			8	8	14	12	6	8
Major agricultural					11	10	6	7
Minor		1	12	3	45	44	11	20
TOTALS		1	22	13	74	70	27	39

* See explanatory note on page 17.

Diminishing agricultural activity released much of the pressure on the labour market during October, but a continuation of the favorable weather which was such an important factor in the early completion of this year's record harvest extended the period of activity in many other seasonal operations. At the same time, consumer spending continued to grow, and manufacturing displayed greater strength than during the same period last year.

The continuing firmness of the Canadian Labour market is reflected in the monthly survey of 123 classified areas, which shows a net decrease of 12 labour shortage areas, a net increase of four areas of approximate balance and a net increase of eight labour surplus areas. These figures, however, tend to underestimate the strength of labour demand because while the number of labour shortage areas amounts to just over one-fifth of the total, the number of wage and salary earners included in these areas represents 44 per cent of all paid workers. The balanced areas and surplus areas represent 38 per cent and 18 per cent of all paid workers respectively.

There was no change in classification among metropolitan areas during the month. Although employment picked up in both Vancouver-New Westminster and Quebec-Levis, labour surpluses continued in both areas.

Among major industrial and agricultural areas, Windsor was the only one to move into the surplus classification, a result of renewed layoffs in automobile and supplier plants. On the other hand, the annual shift of shipping activity to the east coast absorbed the labour surplus in Halifax. Labour shortages were eased in Niagara Falls, Fort William-Port Arthur and Brandon largely as a result of the slowing down of seasonal work.

The detailed table on page 8 classifies all the labour market areas covered in the survey according to the condition of their labour market. A note explaining the basis of this classification is found on page 17.

PACIFIC

Economic activity during October regained much of the ground lost in recent months because of labour disputes, forest fires and fire hazard, and employment recovered to levels more closely related to demand conditions. The highlight of the month was the agreement reached between fishermen and operators on the price of salmon. This resulted in the settlement of the strike which had been in progress since early September and cleared the region of active labour disputes. The outcome of wage negotiations with lumbering operators in the northern interior however, was still in doubt and no agreement had been reached in the shipbuilding industry.

Although the process of catching up with work delays brought activity to a high level during October, diminishing demand for some of the main products of the region caused some concern. Loss of overseas markets and a seasonal drop in demand from North American markets prevented lumber manufacturing from operating at capacity, and production in the logging industry was restricted by high inventories, falling prices and some easing in demand from pulp mills. The strike in the fishing industry was attributed indirectly to lower export demand, and recently a number of marginal mining operations closed because of the continued weakness in lead and zinc prices.

Nevertheless, the demand for other non-ferrous metals was strong, and expansion of ore supplies and processing facilities was proceeding. The development of these resources together with the high level of industrial, residential and ship construction was an important source of demand for labour and will continue to buttress the total level of activity in the region.

The strength of labour demand during the month was reflected in the relatively small number of workers registering at National Employment Service Offices. Job registrations on file at N.E.S. offices in the Pacific region declined by more than a thousand during the month, while they increased in all other regions. At October 30, total applications amounted to 22,800, or 6 per cent of all paid workers. Of the nine labour market areas covered in the monthly survey, four had a surplus of labour, four had a balanced labour market and one had labour shortage.

Metropolitan and Major Industrial Areas. Employment conditions improved in Vancouver-New Westminster and Victoria, but the change was not sufficiently marked to warrant a change in classification. A number of workers were absorbed by logging camps, but at the end of the month vacancies were low and it was the opinion of logging operators that hiring

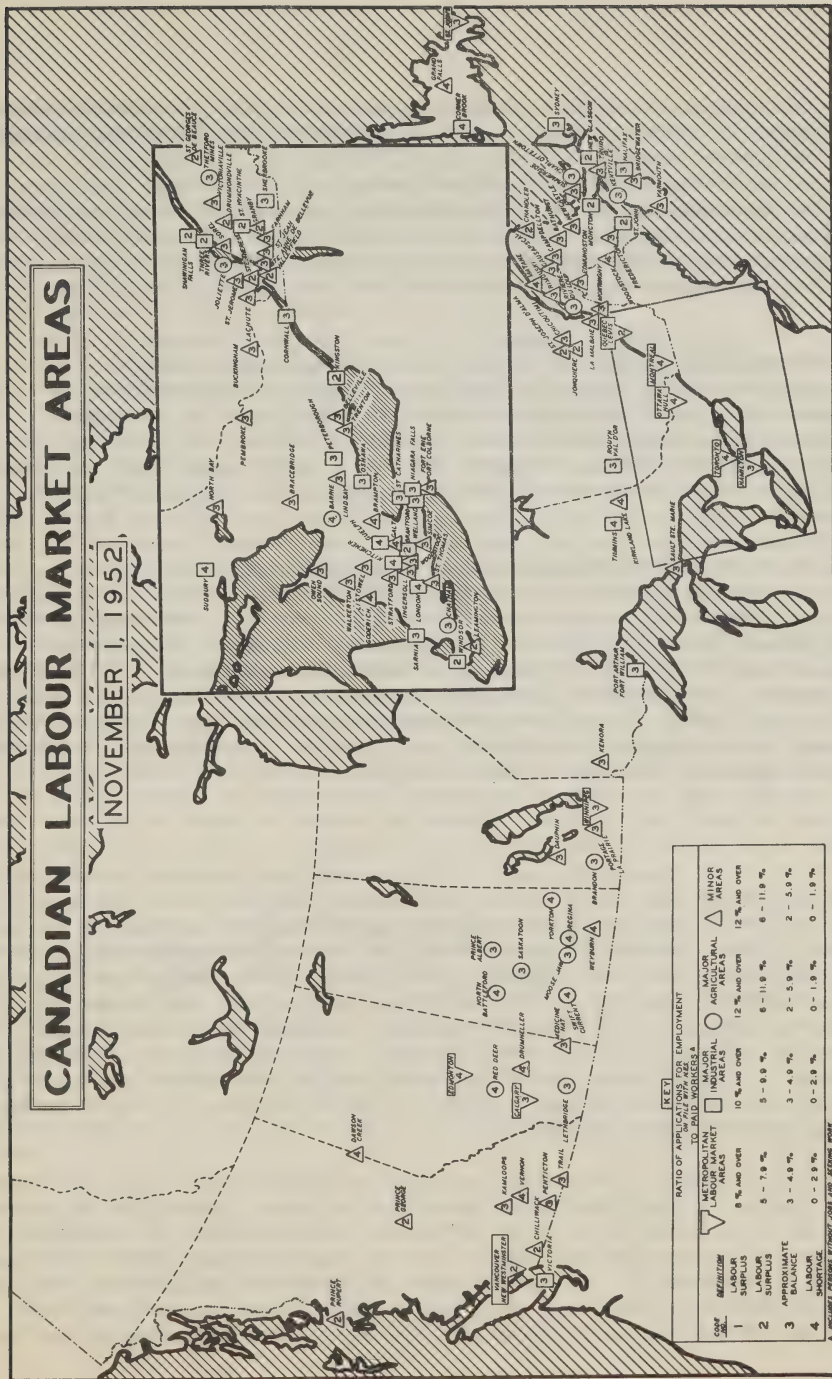
CLASSIFICATION OF LABOUR MARKET AREAS, NOVEMBER 1, 1952.

On the basis of the ratios of job applications on file with N.E.S., to all paid workers in each area.

LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE		LABOUR SHORTAGE
1	2	3	4	
METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS (labour force 75,000 and over)		Quebec - Levis Vancouver - New Westminster	Calgary Hamilton St. John's Winnipeg	Edmonton Montreal Ottawa - Hull Toronto
MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS (labour force 25,000 - 75,000: less than 40 per cent in agriculture)		Brantford Moncton New Glasgow Saint John Shawinigan Falls St. Hyacinthe Three Rivers Windsor	Cornwall Fort William - Port Arthur Halifax Kingston Niagara Falls Oshawa Peterborough Rouyn - Val d'Or Sarnia Sherbrooke St. Catharines Sydney Victoria Welland	Corner Brook Guelph Kitchener - Waterloo London Sudbury Timmins
MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS (labour force 25,000 - 75,000: 40 per cent or more in agriculture)			Brandon Charlottetown Chatham Joliette Kentville Lethbridge Moose Jaw Prince Albert Saskatoon Rivière du Loup Thetford Mines	Barrie North Battleford Red Deer Regina Swift Current Yorkton
MINOR AREAS (labour force 10,000 - 25,000)		Chandler Chilliwack Drummondville Granby Jonquière Leamington Prince George Prince Rupert St. Thérèse St. Georges de Beauce St. Joseph d'Alma Valleyfield	Bathurst Belleville Bracebridge Bridgewater Buckingham Campbellton Causapsca Chicoutimi Dauphin Edmundston Farnham Fort Erie - Port Colborne Fredericton Ingersoll Kamloops Kenora Lachute La Malbaie Lindsay Listowel Medicine Hat Montgomery Newcastle North Bay Owen Sound Pembroke Penticton Portage la Prairie Rimouski Sault Ste. Marie Simcoe Sorel Ste Anne de Bellevue St. Jean St. Jerome St. Thomas Stratford Summerside Trail Trenton Truro Victoriaville Walkerton Woodstock, Ont. Yarmouth	Brampton Dawson Creek Drumheller Galt Goderich Grand Falls Kirkland Lake Matane Vernon Weyburn Woodstock, N.B.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

NOVEMBER 1, 1952



would not be substantially greater in coming months. A rush of lumber production to meet the expiry date on United Kingdom contracts caused a brisk labour demand from sawmills and dockyards, in the early part of October. Fishing resumed after a seven week strike and employment in fish canneries increased. Shipbuilding and repair firms continued to operate with reduced staffs because union contracts were still unsigned but an early settlement was expected, and the backlog of work was large enough to keep the industry busy for an indefinite time.

Minor Areas. Changes in classification occurred in three minor areas during the month. A labour shortage was eliminated in Penticton with the conclusion of fruit picking and the release of loggers from firms whose log inventories were piling up. Labour surpluses also accumulated in two northern areas of the province, Prince Rupert and Prince George. The usual muddy roads that accompany fall rains restricted production and employment in logging and in a number of sawmills at Prince George. Railroad and building construction was active, but the partial completion of the Nechako dam resulted in some lay-offs. Seven hundred men were currently employed on this project, and progressive lay-offs are expected through the winter. Increasing job registrations in Prince Rupert resulted from a lower level of logging and fishing activity. The Columbia Cellulose Company, the largest single employer in the area, was still operating at 60 per cent of capacity in the woods, and will continue at this level until the winter shut down. However, the construction of the new Terrace-Kitimat railway line together with higher grain traffic was expected to absorb at least part of the winter labour surplus.

Harvesting was virtually completed during October with **PRAIRIE** the aid of excellent weather and adequate labour supplies, and with the diminishing activity in this major source of demand, labour shortages in many areas of the region eased noticeably. However, in spite of the impending slackening of activity, the grain crop established new records in both quantity and quality, and recent high levels of retail sales in the region was evidence of the sustaining effect of farm prosperity on the general level of business activity. Harvesting of a heavy sugar beet crop in Manitoba and Alberta was also completed, and the usual labour shortages were eliminated by the introduction of new harvesting machinery.

Although farm labour demands decreased sharply, the mild weather made possible a continuation of construction work. Shortages of carpenters were still reported in a number of areas, but shortages of unskilled labour had virtually disappeared. Employment in meat-packing plants continued to expand in response to the heavy volume of livestock deliveries, and the transportation industry was kept busy trying to get as much grain as possible to the seaboard before the freeze-up. Pulp cutting in the Lakehead

area and lumbering in British Columbia were not however, absorbing the same number of workers as in former years.

At the end of the period there were still no areas with labour surpluses, but total demand for labour had eased sufficiently to create an approximate balance with the supply in the majority of areas. Job applications registered with National Employment Service offices increased by 3,000 to 17,300 at October 30, but this total still amounted to less than 3 per cent of all paid workers in the region.

Metropolitan Labour Market Areas. An approximate balance between labour demand and supply in Winnipeg and Calgary and a labour shortage in Edmonton continued unchanged from September. Retail trade was active in all three centres, and the level of residential construction maintained its margin over last year. Industrial expansion in the Edmonton area was further stimulated by the construction of a new caustic soda plant valued at \$3,000,000.

Major Industrial Areas. Job applications registered with the National Employment Service office in Fort William-Port Arthur did not increase sufficiently during October to bring the area into a labour surplus category although they were rising rapidly at the end of the month. Steady employment levels were maintained in the aircraft and shipbuilding industries, and heavy shipments of ore and grain were expected to keep transportation crews and terminal elevator workers busy for some time. On the other hand, the sizeable reduction in pulpwood production caused a surplus of woods workers to accumulate at the height of the pulp cutting season, and may well create an unemployment problem in the area this winter. At the beginning of November woods employment was 3,000 or close to one third lower than a year ago, and it was not expected to rise much above this level.

Major Agricultural and Minor Areas. As farming operations neared completion demand eased sufficiently to eliminate labour shortages in Brandon, Dauphin, Portage La Prairie and Medicine Hat. The lower level of woods employment also brought Kenora into the balanced category. Nevertheless, activity was higher in most areas than it was a year ago, and a condition of labour shortage existed in almost one-half of the major agricultural and minor areas in the region. Some concern was felt in a number of areas about the lack of jobs in the Ontario bush camps, which normally provide employment for an important section of the farming community in winter.

ONTARIO

The buoyant employment conditions appearing throughout most of Ontario during the past few months continued during October and early November with most local areas remaining in a balanced labour demand and supply position or with a labour shortage. There was, however, a gradual increase in the number of registrations for employment at N. E. S. offices as activity shifted from agriculture to construction and woods work during the month. While employment in manufacturing industries remained fairly stable during October with continuing strong consumer demand for furniture, clothing, textile, rubber and leather products, reductions in employment in the shipbuilding, automobile, and agricultural implement industries as well as a seasonal reduction in fruit and vegetable processing affected a few local office areas. Retail stores began hiring extra staff for their Christmas trade and this was expected to accelerate during the next few weeks.

Construction was one of the chief factors maintaining employment levels in Ontario this fall. The number of residential and business construction starts during the late summer and fall was greater in most local areas than in 1951. As long as favorable weather continues, these projects will maintain a strong demand for labour and many of them will be sufficiently advanced to allow a considerable volume of indoor work to continue this winter in some areas. The chief offsetting factor in the employment picture was the slack demand for woods labour. With this year's planned wood cut considerably lower than during the past two winters, employment in the woods was expected to be much lower this year than last. In October employers had no trouble obtaining sufficient labour and no surpluses of woods labour had developed.

Although the month of October generally showed a fairly rapid increase in the number of N. E. S. registrations for employment, the total this year increased by less than 3,000 from 41,800 at September 25 to 44,600 at October 30. Hence total registrations at the end of October were less than 3 per cent of the total paid workers as compared with 4.3 per cent at the end of October 1951 and 3.1 per cent in 1950.

Metropolitan Areas. Labour continued in tight supply in Toronto and Ottawa-Hull during October. In Ottawa, shortages of machinists, tool-makers, die setters, and domestic workers continued and shortages of bricklayers and tile setters developed during the month, while in Toronto shortages of most types of office workers as well as of domestic workers and motor mechanics continued. There was, however, some easing of the demand for junior clerical staff in Ottawa. The labour market in Hamilton remained in approximate balance but there were shortages of some skills such as machinists, tool makers, die setters, welders, and flame cutters. Although the winter upswing in N.E.S. registrations for employment usually starts in October, both Toronto and Ottawa-Hull showed a decline this year and the increase in Hamilton during the month was of less than 100 registrations.

Major Industrial Areas. There was very little change in labour market conditions in most of the major industrial areas in Ontario during October as sustained consumer demand and the strong labour needs of defence industries maintained or increased employment levels in manufacturing. Of the 15 major industrial areas, five still had some labour shortages, seven continued with approximately balanced markets, the shortage of labour in Niagara Falls was eased, the surplus in Brantford increased somewhat, and a slight labour surplus developed in Windsor.

Uncertain conditions in the agricultural implement industry resulting from loss of some export markets and the seasonal decline in domestic demand were largely responsible for the lay-offs which took place in Brantford. On the other hand, lay-offs in the automobile industry in preparation for model change-over resulted in a substantial increase in the number of registrations for employment in the Windsor area. A good many of the automobile plant lay-offs were temporary and of fixed duration but some of the parts manufacturers made substantial indefinite lay-offs. The reduction of fruit canning and the closing of the tourist season together with some easing in the demand for construction workers on the hydro project relieved the labour shortage in Niagara Falls.

Continuing capacity production in the furniture, leather and rubber industries and heavy business and residential construction continued to employ all available labour in Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and London. Sudbury and Timmins also had some shortages of labour at the end of October but most construction projects will be shutting down within a month or six weeks in these areas and there was no shortage of woods labour.

Major Agricultural Areas. Despite the completion of nearly all farm operations in the region the shortage of labour was expected to continue in Barrie if the weather held and construction activity at Camp Borden continued. The labour market continued in approximate balance in Chatham where harvesting of corn and sugar beets and processing of sugar were still in progress.

Minor Areas. Sixteen of the 21 minor local office areas had approximately balanced labour markets, but Brampton, Galt, Goderich and Kirkland Lake still had a short supply of labour with all industries continuing active. Leamington was the only one of the minor areas with a surplus of labour. The seasonal reduction in employment in fruit canning and packing and the transfer of the tobacco manufacturing plant to Simcoe released a substantial number of workers in this area who had not been absorbed in other industries.

QUEBEC

Employment conditions in the Quebec region during October maintained the unusual vigour evident in September. However, one important change occurred in the source of this strength — expansion in logging replaced the earlier importance of agriculture and related industries. Meanwhile, employment continued relatively high in certain seasonal activities, especially construction, although this situation was increasingly dependent on exceptionally fine weather conditions. Labour shortages and problems of turnover were disappearing. Nevertheless, experienced help was still being sought in clothing and shoe manufacturing, and for skilled occupations in defence industries.

The construction industry displayed an unusual degree of activity for the season. Cold weather was only beginning to affect employment on the resource development projects in Labrador and the Lake St. John area and while the high volume of road work was lessening, activity in the residential field continued strong. A good part of this work was started late in the season and contractors were rushing work to completion while the fine weather lasted.

Further strengthening occurred in the consumer goods industries, increasing employment in clothing, boot and shoe, rubber manufacturing and furniture industries and to a lesser degree in the basic supplying industries, textiles and leather.

A good indication of the buoyancy of the employment situation was the fact that the applications rose by less than 1,000 during October, although last year 6,900 and in 1950, 3,200 were added during the same month.

Contrary to earlier expectations, the decline in logging activity as compared with last year - employment among the main pulpwood companies in Quebec at October 25 totalled 31,900 as compared with 39,200 in 1951 - had not yet seriously affected the employment situation. However, the impact will be felt toward the end of the year.

Registrations at National Employment Service offices in Quebec totalled 45,100 at October 30, accounting for 3.9 per cent of all paid workers in the region.

Metropolitan Areas. The high level of activity evident in Montreal during September showed little change in October and the area continued to be classified in the labour shortage group. The large volume of construction work underway was indicative of the general buoyancy of the locality's economy. Further strengthening occurred in the consumer durable and non-durable industries and some hiring was taking place in the defence and defence-supporting industries. An increase in labour turnover also developed under the favourable employment conditions, particularly in the clothing trades where experienced help was in strong demand.

In Quebec City, activity remained steady at a lower level than in Montreal and with labour surpluses of a moderate size. One of the city's main industries, shoe manufacturing, was very active and with night shifts in operation, demand was outstripping suitable labour supplies. The textile and paper products industries were showing steady improvement. The construction industry has been slack this year and some labour surpluses appeared in this field. In addition, surpluses of women workers were reported.

Major Industrial Areas. Very little change occurred among the five areas classified in this group. Rouyn-Val D'Or and Sherbrooke continued to report a balanced situation despite the advance of the season.

Further strengthening occurred in the textile and paper products industries, of which the reduced operations had resulted in moderate labour surpluses in the St. Hyacinthe, Shawinigan Falls and Three Rivers areas. However, the improvement was not reflected in a change in classification since much of the increase in production was being effected by a resumption of regular working hours rather than by an increase in staff. Any additional hiring tended to be cancelled out by seasonal lay-offs.

Minor Agricultural Areas. A balanced employment situation was maintained in all three areas falling into this category. Extremely fine weather helped to sustain seasonal activities and so maintain the high level of activity recorded in September.

Minor Areas. The only changes in the classification of local areas occurred in the minor areas. The one area with a substantial labour surplus, Chandler, was reclassified to the moderate labour surplus category as hiring increased in logging. St. Joseph D'Alma, and Jonquiere in the Lake St. John area, where hydro-electric projects were nearing completion, moved from the balanced to a moderate labour surplus category. However, the majority of areas continued to be classified as balanced. Below-capacity production in textiles combined in some instances with lower levels of activity in construction and other seasonal work resulted in several areas in the Eastern townships - Drummondville, Granby, Valleyfield, St. Georges de Beauce - falling into the moderate labour surplus category.

ATLANTIC Industrial activity remained at a fairly high level during October and although seasonal declines were apparent in agriculture and, to a lesser extent, in construction, the overall employment figures at the end of the month were slightly below last month's peak level. The upward trend in business activity was reflected in department store sales which during October increased by more than a third from the October levels of the previous year.

Defence contracts, together with strengthened consumer buying, have maintained a high level of activity in manufacturing during the past months and conditions point to a continuation of this trend for some time to come.

Agricultural employment declined as the harvesting of field and root crops neared completion during the month, and the available labour supply was swelled by workers returning from the Ontario and Maine potato fields. Alternative employment in other seasonal occupations, such as construction and logging, however, absorbed a large number of these workers. Potato growers had a good year and the current high prices, together with large crops, will reduce their need to supplement their incomes by seeking woods work this winter.

Construction remained at a high level generally even though road and railway work slackened. There was little apparent reduction in the demand for construction workers from Labrador and Seven Islands during October. The decrease in activity in these areas will become more apparent in the coming months. For the Atlantic region as a whole, activity in construction, aided by fine weather, was little changed from the previous month.

At the end of the month, labour supply and demand were balanced in most areas. Job applications on file at N. E. S. offices at the end of October totalled 18,800 compared with 17,900 at the beginning of the month. This figure represents about 5 per cent of all the paid workers in the region.

Metropolitan Areas. St. John's, Newfoundland, the only metropolitan labour market area in this region, had a balanced labour market at the end of October. As was the case a month earlier, clearance orders were heavy, especially from Seven Islands construction contractors, who still required carpenters and labourers. Recruiting for this work has been done through the St. John's office and will continue for some months.

Major Industrial Areas. Of the six local areas in this category, Corner Brook was in the labour shortage group, Halifax and Sydney had balanced labour markets and the remaining three, New Glasgow, Moncton and Saint John, were in the labour surplus category.

Woods operations were progressing favourably in Corner Brook during the month and there was a very strong demand for cutters. The extensive construction work in progress in Newfoundland was drawing off workers who would otherwise accept woods employment. However, the shortage was not expected to continue long enough to curtail the season's cutting quota. All branches of manufacturing activity in Halifax remained at a high level and defence contracts ensured steady dockyard employment.

Extensive lumber cutting, together with good agricultural crops, resulted in a healthy position for the Sydney area. All mines in the New

Glasgow area operated steadily with the exception of one coal mine which closed temporarily because of fire hazard. Employment in Moncton was affected by low transportation activity and the return of men who had completed their contracts to work on northern defence projects. Factors contributing to the labour surplus in the Saint John area were poor fishing catches, small lumber operations and a slight reduction in construction work in the outlying areas.

Major Agricultural Areas. Both Charlottetown and Kentville, the two areas in this group, had balanced labour markets at the end of October.

Minor Areas. Labour supply and demand were in approximate balance in eleven minor areas during the month. The remaining two, Grand Falls and Woodstock, were in the labour shortage category. All branches of manufacturing and of the wholesale and retail trade remained active in Woodstock while in Grand Falls forestry operations continued strong.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The labour market areas have been divided into four broad groups or areas on the basis of the size of the labour force and the proportion of the labour force that is engaged in agriculture. The key to the area classification is shown on page 18.

In determining the definitions of higher and lower degrees of labour surplus, approximate balance between labour supply and demand, and labour shortage, a number of significant factors were taken into account. For example, a high ratio of N. E. S. job applications to all paid workers (including persons without jobs and seeking work), is more significant in a metropolitan area where employment is normally more stable than it is in an area in which seasonal industries predominate. Furthermore, this ratio normally fluctuates over a greater range during the year in "major agricultural" and "minor" areas than it does in "metropolitan" areas. Similarly, a condition of labour shortage becomes apparent when the ratio is somewhat higher in larger areas than in smaller areas, because the "hard core" of unemployed generally forms a greater proportion of the labour force in a large area than it does in a small one. These factors are reflected in the labour rating in the key to the area classification.

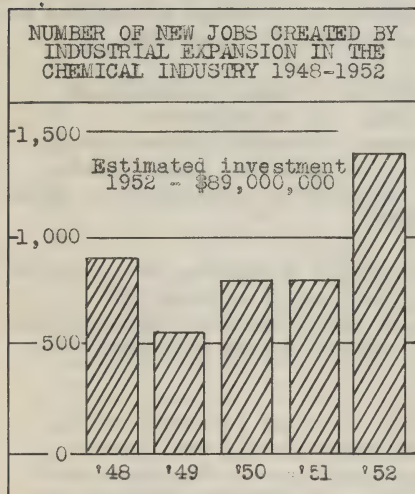
Labour conditions in the various areas, which give a representative coverage of about 95 per cent of the country's labour force, are shown in the summary table (page 6), the detailed table (page 8) and the map (page 9).

Key to Area Classification

		RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT ON FILE WITH NES TO PAID WORKERS *			
CODE No.	DEFINITION	METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREA	MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREA	MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREA	MINOR AREA
1	Labour Surplus	8% and over	10% and over	12% and over	12% and over
2	Labour Surplus	5 - 7.9%	5 - 9.9%	6 - 11.9%	6 - 11.9%
3	Approximate Balance	3 - 4.9%	3 - 4.9%	2 - 5.9%	2 - 5.9%
4	Labour Shortage	0 - 2.9%	0 - 2.9%	0 - 1.9%	0 - 1.9%

* Includes persons without jobs and seeking work

PLANT EXPANSION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, 1952



In the five years ending September 1952, employment in the chemical industry rose from 38,000 to 46,000 workers. Manning of new plant facilities that have begun production was a major factor in this considerable employment expansion. In 1952 alone, about 30 new plants and plant extensions were completed, and another 12 are now under construction and are expected to start operations in 1953. These new plants will provide employment for 2,800 workers, of which about half were engaged this year.

Capital investment required per job is very high in the chemical industry. The estimated investment of \$89,000,000 on plant expansion in the industry in 1952 represents an investment of \$64,000 per worker; this compares for example with

\$1,500 per worker in a building products plant. Because the dollar content is so high and labour content low, new employment opportunities rise slowly despite large investment.

Current expansion in the chemical industry is based primarily on the growing needs of an expanding industrial economy, although the chemical industry also directly meets defence needs. Thus the bulk of the expansion is for the manufacture of industrial-type chemicals, and the impetus is provided by the new petrochemical, plastic, and manufactured sulphur branches of the industry. Expansion of plant facilities to produce consumer-type chemical products has tapered off, although major expansion was carried out in this sector in the first few years after World War II.

The expansion of two large Canadian chemical companies - Canadian Industries Ltd. and Dow Chemical of Canada Ltd. - represents almost one-third of the total expansion in the industry during 1952. The Dow company completed five new plants and plant extensions at Sarnia, Ontario, but despite investment of about \$10,000,000, these five units only required from 60-70 workers. Also at Sarnia, Godfrey L. Cabot Inc. now employs 60 workers in a new \$10,000,000 carbon black plant.

In 1952, Canadian Industries Ltd. completed two new plants, and two plant extensions. Their new commercial explosives plant of very modern design at Calgary, Alberta employs 150-200 workers. C.I.L. also recently started production in a new liquid sulphur dioxide plant at Copper Cliff, Ontario, employing 50-75 men. This plant is only one of several sulphur manufacturing plants completed in the last two years to relieve the shortage of sulphur which has plagued the pulp and paper industry in particular for some time.

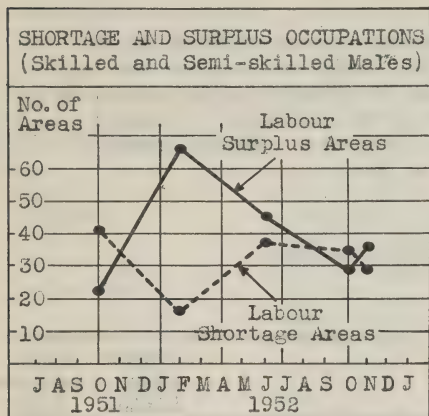
A new company, St. Maurice Chemicals Ltd., owned by Shawinigan Chemicals Ltd. and British American Oil Co. Ltd. will soon produce petrochemicals in a \$2,000,000 plant at Varennes, Quebec, which employs 45 workers. Varennes, near Montreal, is the site of two other large plants now under construction. These three plants represent an investment of about \$18,000,000, and will employ roughly 300 workers.

At Kimberley, B.C. the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. built a new \$10,000,000 ammonia phosphate fertilizer plant which employs 150 workers. The new \$4,500,000 plant extension of North American Cyanamid Ltd. at Niagara Falls, Ontario, employs about 100 workers making chemicals for explosives.

The largest plants being built in the chemical industry at the present time will not be completed in 1952 and consequently employment effects in manufacturing will not be felt until next year. The Canadian Chemical Company plant at Edmonton will cost close to \$50,000,000 when completed in the early part of 1953. Approximately 700 workers will be hired to operate this plant. Another large \$15,000,000 chemical plant is under construction at Maitland, Ontario, and when completed in the fall of 1953, will employ about 600 workers.

To sum up therefore, the chemical industry has created some 1,400 new employment opportunities this year, and a further 1,400 new jobs are in prospect for 1953 when projects currently underway are completed.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES



Trend lines show the number of areas in which there were shortages and surpluses of one or more occupational skills.

The usual seasonal decline in demand for various types of labour at this time of the year began to show up quite clearly by the end of October.

The number of areas reporting surpluses of certain selected occupations at the beginning of November exceeded those reporting shortages by 38 to 29. This is in contrast to the previous month when the number of areas reporting shortages exceeded those reporting surpluses by 36 to 29.

Metropolitan Areas. Of the 10 metropolitan areas in Canada, St. John's, Newfoundland and Vancouver-New Westminster were the only areas not reporting occupational shortages

at the beginning of November. The shortage of bricklayers and tile setters was the most widespread and appeared in Montreal, Edmonton, Ottawa-Hull and Winnipeg. The only other noteworthy occupational shortages were of machinists, tool makers and die setters in Hamilton and Ottawa-Hull. The demand for female domestic workers exceeded the supply in almost all metropolitan areas.

The largest number of surplus occupations occurred in Vancouver-New Westminster, but Montreal also had a surplus of mechanics, painters, seamen, stationary engineers, secondary textile workers and welders. The supply of carpenters exceeded the demand in all of the metropolitan areas except Calgary, Hamilton and Edmonton. Montreal, Quebec-Levis and Vancouver-New Westminster had an over-supply of painters.

Major Industrial Areas. Surpluses of one or more occupations appeared in 14 of the 28 areas in this classification at the beginning of November. None of the areas, however, showed an excessive supply of manpower in more than three occupations and the only widespread surplus was of carpenters. On the other hand, shortages occurred in only four areas but the list of shortage occupations became rather extensive in Halifax. In contrast to one month ago, when the only occupations appearing on the shortage list in Halifax were machinists, tool makers and die setters, the accompanying table now includes welders, flame cutters, structural iron and steel workers and sales and clerical personnel.

Major Agricultural Areas. As might be expected at this time of year, a surplus of farm hands developed during October in all areas - the one exception being Lethbridge.

Minor Areas. Occupational shortages were apparent in 10 areas in this category and surpluses in 16. Pulp cutting was the only occupation showing shortages and surpluses in equally large numbers of areas. The only other shortages were of sales personnel in Granby, domestic and personal service workers in Chicoutimi and engineers, machinists, tool makers and die setters in Sorel.

Local Occupational Shortage - Male
October 30, 1952.

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Carpenters	49	23
"	Unskilled Construction Workers	32	5
Edmonton	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	131	9
"	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	32	4
"	Machine Shop Workers	30	1
Hamilton	Machinists Toolmakers & Die Setters	69	22
"	Plasterers	26	--
"	Welders & Flame Cutters	66	23
Montreal	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	101	44
"	Routemen	214	43
Ottawa-Hull	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	29	1
" "	Farm Workers	38	12
" "	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	114	3
Toronto	Domestic Service Workers	106	73
Winnipeg	Bricklayers & Tile Setters	77	15

Major Industrial Areas

Corner Brook	Carpenters	68	9
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	745	113
Halifax	Clerical Workers	512	156
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	65	4
"	Sales Personnel	119	17
"	Structural Iron & Steel Workers	28	2
"	Welders & Flame Cutters	32	3
Saint John	Unskilled Construction Workers	105	15
Val d'Or - Rouyn	Loggers & Bushmen	68	16

Local Occupational Shortages - Male (Cont'd)
October 30, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Major Agricultural Areas</u>			
Brandon	Farm Workers	37	11
Chatham	Unskilled Transportation Equipment Workers	187	23
Lethbridge	Miners	66	3
Moose Jaw	Carpenters	34	2
" "	Farm Workers	28	2
Regina	Farm Workers	38	-
"	Carpenters	36	2
Swift Current	Carpenters	33	-
" "	Unskilled Construction Workers	41	8
Yorkton	Farm Workers	35	3
<u>Minor Areas</u>			
Causapscal	Loggers & Bushmen	32	4
Chicoutimi	Loggers & Bushmen	370	4
Granby	Sales Personnel	51	10
La Malbaie	Loggers & Bushmen	100	5
Matane	Loggers & Bushmen	160	-
Rimouski	Loggers & Bushmen	981	1
St. Georges de Beauce	Loggers & Bushmen	289	4
St. Joseph D'Alma	Loggers & Bushmen	207	-
Sorel	Engineers	50	-
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	49	4

Local Occupational Shortages - Female
October 30, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Domestic Service Workers	206	87
Edmonton	Domestic Service Workers	107	63
"	Waitresses	57	16

Local Occupational Shortage - Female
October 30, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Montreal	Domestic Service Workers	315	129
"	Secondary Textile Workers	973	925
"	Unskilled Textile Workers	278	144
Ottawa-Hull	Domestic Service Workers	211	94
Quebec-Levis	Domestic Service Workers	265	199
Toronto	Domestic Service Workers	612	211
"	General Office Clerks	449	366
"	Sales Personnel	790	266
"	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	760	212
"	Waitresses	456	105

Major Industrial Areas

Halifax	Domestic Service Workers	129	33
"	Food & Tobacco Workers	77	2
"	General Office Clerks	112	80
"	Sales Personnel	227	76
London	Domestic Service Workers	163	78
Sherbrooke	Sales Personnel	76	46

Major Agricultural Areas

Brandon	Domestic Service Workers	63	21
Charlottetown	Domestic Service Workers	72	36
Regina	Domestic Service Workers	95	20
"	Waitresses	56	5
Saskatoon	Domestic Service Workers	95	47
"	Teachers *	295	6
Thetford Mines	Sales Personnel	46	14

Minor Areas

Chicoutimi	Domestic Service Workers	77	25
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* Teachers Office, Province of Saskatchewan

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
October 30, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Montreal	Carpenters	297	55
"	Painters	411	4
"	Seamen	144	-
"	Stationary Engineers & Firemen	113	18
"	Secondary Textile Workers	322	37
"	Welders & Flame Cutters	145	22
Ottawa-Hull	Carpenters	93	5
Quebec-Levis	Carpenters	156	24
" "	Painters	120	6
" "	Sales Personnel	170	87
St. John's	Carpenters	122	-
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	110	-
Toronto	Carpenters	295	22
"	Painters	180	2
"	Secondary Textile Workers	166	17
Vancouver -			
New Westminster	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	119	-
" "	Carpenters	708	37
" "	Cranemen & Shovelmen	77	1
" "	Electricians	91	4
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	224	8
" "	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	299	20
" "	Painters	236	2
" "	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	88	3
" "	Stationary Engineers & Firemen	225	2
" "	Welders & Flame Cutters	191	1
Winnipeg	Carpenters	167	24
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Brantford	Foundry Workers	80	1
Fort William-			
Port Arthur	Carpenters	69	-
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	256	4
Halifax	Seamen	55	5
London	Carpenters	66	4
Moncton	Carpenters	113	13

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
October 30, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Major Industrial Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
New Glasgow	Structural Iron & Steel Workers	141	-
Peterborough	Primary Textile Workers	57	-
Rouyn-Val d'Or	Carpenters	79	4
Saint John	Carpenters	99	19
Shawinigan Falls	Carpenters	57	-
Sherbrooke	Primary Textile Workers	76	11
Three Rivers	Carpenters	100	3
" "	Foundry Workers	62	-
Victoria	Carpenters	109	15
Windsor	Automobile Workers	76	12
"	Carpenters	115	-
"	Machine Shop Workers	82	4

Major Agricultural Areas

Lethbridge	Farm Workers	59	-
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Minor Areas

Bathurst	Carpenters	55	-
"	Loggers & Bushmen	72	-
Bridgewater	Carpenters	26	-
"	Loggers & Bushmen	45	-
Campbellton	Loggers & Bushmen	41	-
Chandler	Loggers & Bushmen	68	-
Drummondville	Primary Tectile Workers	63	-
Grand Falls	Loggers & Bushmen	40	-
Jonquiere	Carpenters	40	1
Leamington	Automobile Workers	25	-
North Bay	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	27	-
Prince George	Loggers & Bushmen	88	8
Prince Rupert	Carpenters	35	8
St. Georges de Beauce	Boot & Shoe Workers	42	-
St. Joseph d'Alma	Carpenters	96	-
Truro	Loggers & Bushmen	41	-
Valleyfield	Carpenters	74	1
"	Primary Textile Workers	54	8
Yarmouth	Carpenters	71	-
"	Farm Workers	71	-

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The preceding tables are based primarily on National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers.

The table on local occupational shortages shows the occupations in each area where the vacancies exceeded the applications by twenty-five or more. Male and female workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations are dealt with separately.

The table on local occupational surpluses covers male workers only and is compiled on the following basis:

Labour force in the area:	Areas Listed if excess of applications over vacancies is:
75,000 and over	75 or more
25,000 to 75,000	50 or more
10,000 to 25,000	25 or more

In this table, unskilled workers are not listed and some service occupations as well as certain other occupational groups (e.g. foremen, apprentices, etc.) are excluded.

Both tables are adjusted in the light of qualitative information on employment in Canada during the period covered. This includes reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by local employment office managers. As a result of the examination of these data some occupations and areas may be deleted from the preliminary tables and others, for which the statistical evidence is less conclusive may be added.

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS - PRELIMINARY DATA

Items	1952		Percentage Change	
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>				
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.....	Oct. 30	148,641	+ 4.1	- 4.4
Per cent of labour force.....	Oct. 30	2.7	2.6 *	3.0*
Per cent of paid workers (1).....	Oct. 30	3.7	3.5 *	4.0*
Claimants for benefit, U.I.C.....	Oct. 1	92,627 ⁽²⁾	- 9.2	(3)
Per cent of insured population.....	Oct. 1	3.0	3.3 *	(3)
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Oct. 1	64.8	64.9 *	(3)
Amount of benefit payments (\$000).....	September	5.711	- 8.5	+ 65.2
Index of employment (1939 = 100).....	Sept. 1	190.1	+ 0.7	+ 2.5
Immigration.....	September	9,267	-17.9	- 30.0
<u>Earnings and Income</u>				
Total labour income (\$000,000).....	August	922	+ 1.9	+ 10.7
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	Sept. 1	\$54.54	+ 1.2	+ 7.7
Average hourly earnings (mfg.).....	Sept. 1	\$ 1.30	+ 0.5	+ 7.5
Average hours worked per week (mfg.)....	Sept. 1	41.6	+ 1.2	+ 0.2
Average weekly earnings (mfg.)	Sept. 1	\$53.91	+ 1.8	+ 7.7
Cost-of-living index (Av. 1935-39 = 100)	Oct. 1	185.0	- 0.8	- 2.8
Consumer Price Index (Av. 1947 = 100)...	Oct. 1	116.0	- 0.1	- 0.9
Real weekly earnings (Mfg. Av. 1949=100)	Sept. 1	111.3	+ 1.6	+ 8.1
<u>Industrial Production</u>				
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	August	208.3	- 1.5	+ 1.4
Manufacturing.....	August	210.7	- 1.8	+ 1.0
Durables.....	August	248.5	- 1.2	+ 2.1
Non-durables.....	August	188.6	- 2.2	- 1.5
<u>Industrial Relations</u>				
Strikes and lockouts - days lost.....	October	165,009	-18.8	+197.5

* These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

- (1) Includes persons without jobs and seeking work.
- (2) Not including claimants on temporary mass lay-offs.
- (3) Not comparable with last year's total.

C A N A D I A N

LABOUR MARKET

Government
Publications

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH BRANCH

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CONFIDENTIAL

December, 1952

Part 10 of the
Confidential Series
on Unemployment
Volume 9 herein. Number 12



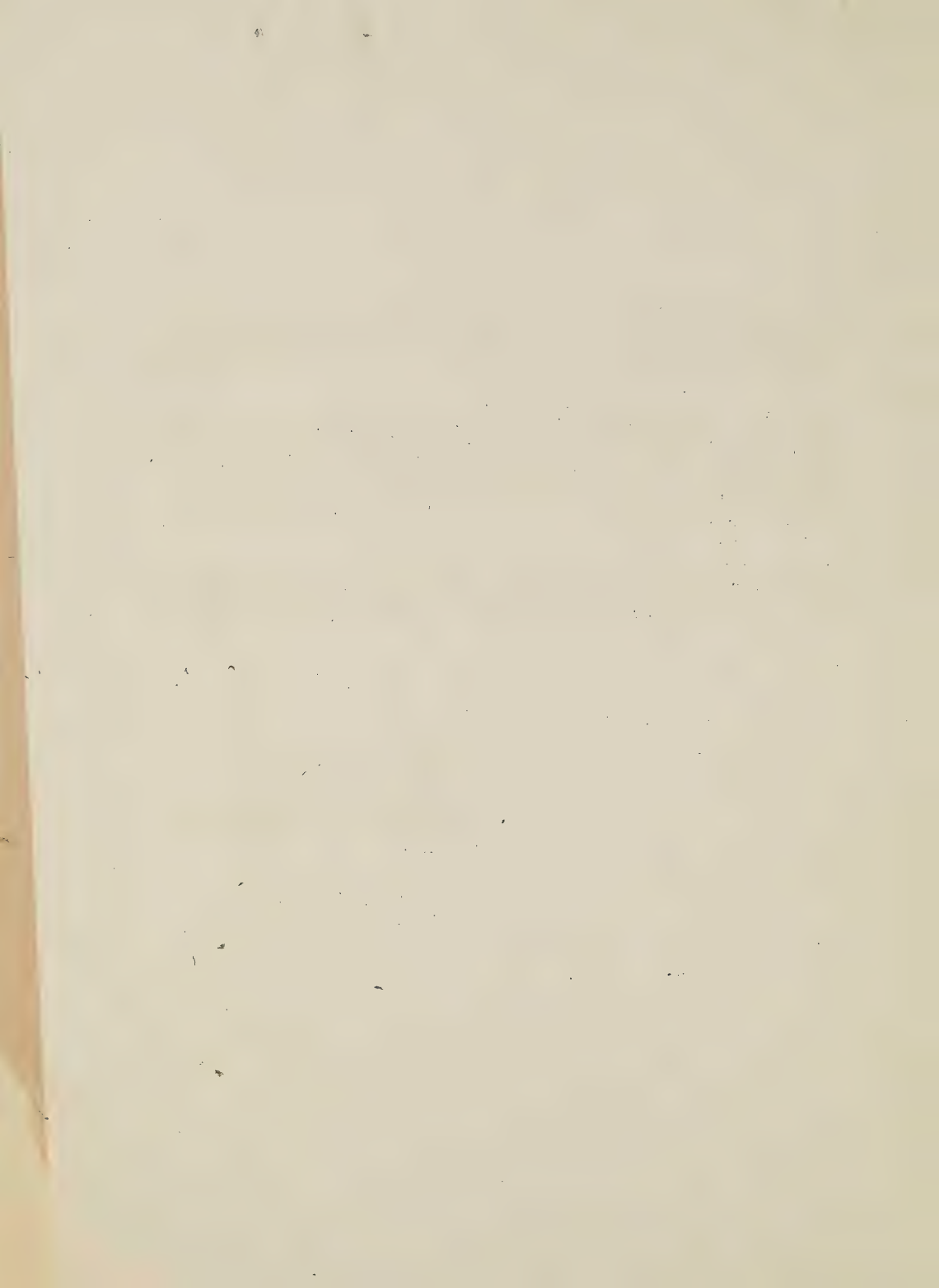
Beginning in January 1953, the "Canadian Labour Market" will no longer appear in its present form. It will be printed regularly as a feature section of "The Labour Gazette", published monthly by the Department of Labour.

This section, which will be entitled "Current Manpower and Labour Relations Review", will be prepared by the Economics and Research Branch of the Department, and will continue to give an up-to-date analysis of current developments in the Canadian Labour market. The currency of the data will not be appreciably affected by the change.

If you do not at present receive "The Labour Gazette" and wish to do so, you may obtain information respecting subscription rates by addressing your request to The Circulation Manager, The Labour Gazette, Ottawa.

George V. Hawthorne,
Director,
Economics and Research Branch,
Department of Labour, Ottawa.

December 29, 1952.



CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Economics & Research Branch

Department of Labour

authorized by

Hon. Milton F. Gregg, V. C.
Minister

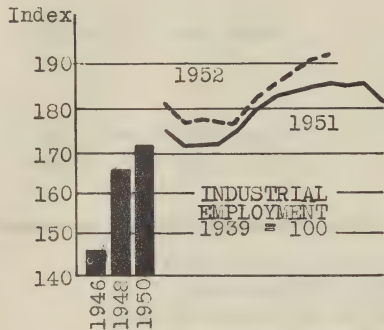
Arthur MacNamara, C.M.G.,
LL.D., Deputy Minister.

This is a confidential report on current labour market conditions for the use of government officials only. Any comments on its contents should be addressed to the Director of this Branch. Public information covering labour matters is provided in the Labour Gazette, the official publication of the Department of Labour.

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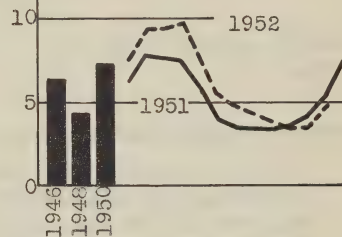
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LABOUR MARKET TRENDS



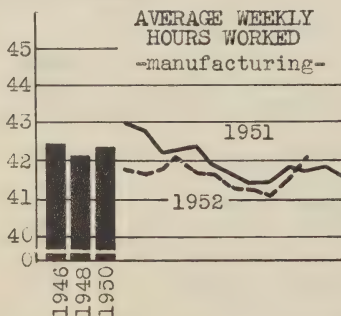
Oct. 1, 1952.....	192.0
Jul. 1, 1952.....	185.5
Apr. 1, 1952.....	177.9
Jan. 1, 1952.....	181.0
Oct. 1, 1951.....	186.5
Oct. 1, 1950.....	177.1
Oct. 1, 1948.....	171.3
Oct. 1, 1946.....	150.1

Per
Cent
RATIO OF JOB APPLICATIONS
TO PAID WORKERS (1)



Dec. 1, 1952.....	4.8
Sep. 1, 1952.....	3.9
Jun. 1, 1952.....	5.6
Mar. 1, 1952.....	9.4
Dec. 1, 1951.....	5.3
Dec. 1, 1950.....	5.0
Dec. 1, 1948.....	4.0
Dec. 1, 1946.....	4.1

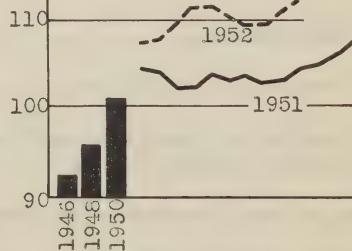
Hours Per Week



Oct. 1, 1952.....	42.1
Jul. 1, 1952.....	41.3
Apr. 1, 1952.....	42.1
Jan. 1, 1952.....	41.7
Oct. 1, 1951.....	41.9
Oct. 1, 1950.....	42.9
Oct. 1, 1948.....	43.0
Oct. 1, 1946.....	42.9

Index

REAL
WEEKLY EARNINGS
1946 = 100
-manufacturing-



Oct. 1, 1952.....	113.0
Jul. 1, 1952.....	109.6
Apr. 1, 1952.....	111.5
Jan. 1, 1952.....	107.5
Oct. 1, 1951.....	104.6
Oct. 1, 1950.....	102.3
Oct. 1, 1948.....	97.6
Oct. 1, 1946.....	92.3

(1) Ratio of live applications for employment at N. E. S. Offices to all paid workers (includes persons without jobs and seeking work)

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET

The buoyant labour market, which prevailed in most parts of Canada during September and October, gave way to a selective easing of labour demand in relation to supplies toward the end of November and the first week of December. This is explained in part by the usual cessation of seasonal activity in construction, fishing and agriculture, but part of the explanation also lies in the lower year-to-year employment levels in logging. Some seasonal lay-offs took place in other sectors, but employment, generally speaking, was continuing at a level higher, and the number of those seeking work, at a lower one, than last year.

The monthly Labour Force Survey⁽¹⁾ conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics relating to the week ended November 22, 1952, indicated that there were 5,290,000 in the civilian labour force, 80,000 more than during the week ending November 3, 1951. Of this total, there were 4,680,000 at work for 35 hours or more during the week, 367,000 working less than 35 hours, 129,000 with jobs but not at work, and 114,000 persons without jobs but seeking work.

Of the 367,000 persons working less than 35 hours during the week, about 243,000 usually work part-time. Of the remaining 124,000 persons, 11,000 were laid off for part of the week, 21,000 were on short time, 30,000 were kept from their jobs by bad weather and another 27,000 by illness. The remaining 35,000 worked less than 35 hours for a variety of causes, such as vacations, industrial disputes, or because they lost or found jobs during the week.

Illness (61,000), vacations (23,000), and lay-offs (17,000) accounted for most of the 129,000 persons who had jobs but did not work during the survey week. It was found that a grand total of 131,000 were looking for work, but that 17,000 of them had done work during the survey week. Of the remaining 114,000 who were without jobs and seeking work, 10,000 persons were looking for part-time work.

Additional information is provided through data supplied from National Employment Service local offices⁽²⁾. Applications for employment on hand at N.E.S. offices at November 20 totalled 179,000, an increase of 31,000 over the figure for October 23, but a decrease of 13,000 from the corresponding date in 1951.

(1) See Note 1, page 5.

(2) See Note 2, page 5.

The largest number of applications on file was in the Quebec region where a total of 55,000 applications were registered. This compares with 50,000 for Ontario, 23,000 for the Atlantic region; 22,000 and 27,000 for the Prairie and Pacific regions respectively.

Analysis of these statistics on a year-to-year basis brings out some rather interesting regional patterns. In the Quebec and Atlantic regions, where employment is particularly susceptible to seasonal influences, the year-to-year totals were higher than last year. In Ontario, where the bulk of the consumer goods industries are located, the total is substantially lower than last year, while in the Prairie and Pacific regions, the totals are little different. In every region the total of females registered with the N.E.S. is significantly lower than last year.

Forestry activity continues lower than last year, with the picture becoming clearer as the winter progresses. In Eastern Canada, the hiring peak for the fall season was reached by the middle of November. The Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, whose member firms provide about 70 per cent of total logging employment in the East, reports that employment in these firms levelled off at 60,700 by the 15th of November, some 22 per cent below the 1951 peak of 78,100. In the following two weeks, a decline of 6,800 in the level of employment took place, as some operators completed their pulp wood cutting for the fall at this early date. The timing this year of woods operations was much more similar to that in pre-war years when cutting operations were usually completed before Christmas, leaving hauling to be done in January and February, and the river drives later in the spring.

Activity in the consumer goods industries continued at the higher year-to-year level noted for earlier months. At the beginning of October (the latest date available), employment in clothing was about 8 per cent higher. For all manufacturing, employment was about one per cent higher than at the 1st of September and about three per cent higher than at October 1 of last year.

This has been accompanied by an increase in average hours worked in manufacturing, 42.1 hours at October 1, compared with 41.6 hours a month earlier, and 41.9 hours the previous year. A decrease in hours worked in agricultural implements was offset by a significant increase in textiles and clothing, both from the month-earlier and the year-earlier positions.

Statistics on income, sales, and shipments continued to substantiate the heightened year-to-year employment activity. Total labour income, for example, reached an all-time high of \$952 million during September, and the cumulative nine-month total of \$7,912 million exceeded that of the comparable period last year by over 11 per cent. That this trend was continuing was indicated by weekly earnings data for October. The advance figure for average weekly earnings in the major industrial groups stood at \$57.05 at October 1, compared with \$56.36 a month earlier and \$53.31 at October 1, 1951.

Although domestic exports for October were about the same as in October of 1951, total exports for the first ten months of 1952 (\$3,512 million) were substantially above the comparable total for 1951 (\$3,155 million) and undoubtedly have been an important sustaining force in the economy. The greatest year-to-year increases occurred in agriculture and non-ferrous metals. Exports of pulp and animal products declined, owing to some softening of world markets as compared with last year in the case of the former, and the United States embargo in the latter case.

There was some drop in construction jobs in November, particularly in work connected with highway construction and maintenance, although this decline was less than usual because of the generally fine weather that prevailed. Employment was sustained at a higher level than last year, partly due to this year's favourable fall weather, and partly to a late summer surge in new residential construction starts, which by the end of September had resulted in a larger number of dwelling units under construction (59,113) than last year (58,382). The trend of housing starts points to a widening of this gap, as the number of starts in September was 50 per cent higher than in September of 1951. Considerable activity was still going on in various resource development projects and industrial construction, both of which will probably continue as long as the weather permits.

The strong employment position of the manufacturing industries was reflected in the light volume of lay-offs during November. The General Motors plant in Oshawa closed for model changes during the latter part of the month, but the automobile plants in Windsor had recalled most of their temporary lay-offs. Some paper and pulp mills in Quebec and Ontario were still on short time and a few small lay-offs occurred in textile plants in Quebec, and some Pacific-Coast sawmills. Power shortages in the interior of British Columbia, combined with recent dips in world prices for lead and zinc, caused a number of lay-offs. These comprise the bulk of all non-seasonal lay-offs.

Notes

- (1) These estimates are arrived at by means of a sample of 30,000 households chosen by area sampling methods in over 100 different areas in Canada. They are subject to sampling error. In general the smaller the estimate the larger the relative sampling error. The estimates do show, however, the numbers in the various labour force categories with sufficient accuracy for practical purposes.
- (2) These data exclude registrations from persons known to have a job and applying for another one. Means are also taken to exclude as far as possible persons who have secured work on their own since registration. Nevertheless, the figures inevitably include a number of persons who have found employment or who have left the labour force by the time the count is made. On the other hand, not all the persons who are looking for work register at employment offices.

LOCAL LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS

LABOUR MARKET AREAS	LABOUR SURPLUS				APPROXIMATE BALANCE		LABOUR SHORTAGE	
	* 1		2		3		4	
	Dec. 52	Nov. 52	Dec. 52	Nov. 52	Dec. 52	Nov. 52	Dec. 52	Nov. 52
Metropolitan	2	-	2	2	4	4	2	4
Major industrial	1	-	18	8	6	14	3	6
Major agricultural	-	-	4	-	11	11	2	6
Minor	3	-	23	12	39	45	3	11
TOTALS	6	-	47	22	60	74	10	27

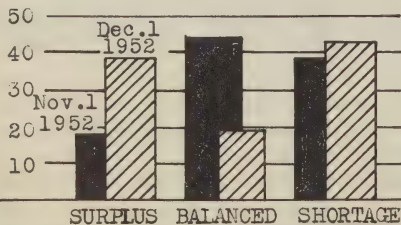
* See explanatory note on page 17. The figures indicate the position at the beginning of the month.

The importance of seasonal influences in Canada was again emphasized during November by a marked drop in total employment, together with a rapid change in the relationship between labour demand and supply in the various areas. This change was sufficiently great in fifty-five of the 123 labour market areas covered in the Department's monthly survey to require a reclassification into the greater labour supply category.

At the same time, there continued to be an underlying demand for labour. This was illustrated by steadily increasing production in the manufacture of both durable and non-durable goods and a relatively strong demand for labour in Ontario. At the end of November, surpluses had developed in only seven of the fourteen industrial areas of the Province. The demand-supply position in the metropolitan areas showed little change with labour shortages continuing in Ottawa-Hull and Toronto.

The Labour Market - as illustrated by the proportion of all paid workers in the group of areas within each of the labour market categories indicated below.....

Per Cent



In all but one of the remaining metropolitan areas of the country there was a slackening in activity, chiefly seasonal in nature, but great enough to require a regrouping under a different labour market classification. Sizeable surpluses were apparent only in Quebec-Levis and Vancouver-New Westminster.

The net result of changes in labour market conditions is indicated in the table at the head of

page six, which shows a decrease of ten in the number of labour shortage areas, a decrease of fourteen in those of approximate balance between labour supply and demand, and an increase of thirty-one in those of labour surplus. A list of all the labour market areas covered in the survey follows on page 8 .

The accompanying chart illustrates the proportion of paid workers in the group of areas within each labour market category. It shows, for example, that although the number of areas with an approximate balance between labour supply and demand dropped from 74 to 60 over the month, the percentage of all paid workers in such areas rose from 38 per cent to 43 per cent. This apparent contradiction is explained by the fact that areas which moved into this classification, such as Montreal, were much larger than those moving out.

ATLANTIC

The aggregate volume of employment in the Atlantic region declined during November although it continued somewhat higher than for the same period in 1951.

Activities connected with outdoor work accounted for most of the monthly decline in November, but seasonal slackening also occurred in fish canneries. Production and employment in the coal and steel industries also declined during latter part of October and November as breakdowns and fire in two of the mines interrupted operations.

The volume of forestry work in 1952 was consistently below last year's level and indications are that this trend will continue through the winter season. Pulpwood production for the June - October period was 30% lower than the same period last year and lumber production for the first nine months of 1952 was about 20% below the first nine months last year. Large inventories and lower market prices were the chief restraining factors in the case of pulp cutting, and smaller demand on the overseas and domestic markets together with the narrow margin between cost and selling prices curtailed lumbering activities.

Agricultural activity during the month was confined to farm chores, wood and christmas tree cutting. Highway and railroad construction continued to decline, and residential and commercial building showed slightly less strength than the previous month. Smaller pulp cutting quotas this season than in the past two years were reflected in a surplus of loggers in many areas at the end of the month. Besides the effects of reduced cutting quotas on woods employment, farmers who normally supplement their farm income by cutting on their wood lots as independent producers will, in many instances, be deprived of this income this winter.

At the end of November the demand for labour had eased sufficiently to create a labour surplus in 12 labour market areas. Only one area had a labour shortage, and supply and demand were in approximate balance in the remaining 7 localities. Applications for employment at

CLASSIFICATION OF LABOUR MARKET AREAS, DECEMBER 1, 1952.

On the basis of the ratios of job applications on file with N.E.S., to all paid workers in each area.

	LABOUR SURPLUS		APPROXIMATE BALANCE	LABOUR SHORTAGE
	1	2	3	4
METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS (labour force 75,000 and over)	Quebec—Levis Vancouver—New Westminster	St. John's Winnipeg	Calgary Edmonton Hamilton Montreal	Ottawa—Hull* Toronto
MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS (labour force 25,000—75,000: less than 40 per cent in agriculture)	Shawinigan Falls	Brantford Cornwall Fort William— Port Arthur Halifax Moncton New Glasgow Niagara Falls Oshawa Peterborough Rouyn—Val d'Or Saint John Sherbrooke St. Catharines St. Hyacinthe Sydney Trois Rivières Victoria Windsor	Kingston London Sarnia Sudbury Timmins Welland	Corner Brook Guelph Kitchener— Waterloo
MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS (labour force 25,000—75,000: 40 per cent or more in agriculture)		Charlottetown Joliette Rivière du Loup Thetford Mines	Barrie Brandon Chatham Kentville Lethbridge Moose Jaw North Battleford Prince Albert Regina Saskatoon Yorkton	Red Deer Swift Current
MINOR AREAS (labour force 10,000—25,000)	Chandler* Chilliwack Prince George	Bathurst Buckingham Campbellton Drummondville Granby Jonquière La Malbaie Leamington Montmagny Newcastle Pembroke Penticton Prince Rupert Rimouski Sorel St. Thérèse St. Georges Est St. Joseph d'Alma Summerside Trenton Valleyfield Victoriaville Yarmouth	Belleville Bracebridge Bridgewater Causapscal Chicoutimi Dauphin Dawson Creek Edmundston Farnham Fort Erie— Port Colborne Fredericton Goderich Grand Falls Ingersoll Kamloops Kenora Kirkland Lake Lachute Lindsay Listowel Matane* Medicine Hat North Bay Owen Sound Portage la Prairie Sault Ste. Marie Simcoe Ste. Anne de Bellevue St. Jean St. Jerome Stratford St. Thomas Trail Truro Vernon Walkerton Weyburn Woodstock N.B. Woodstock, Ont.	Brampton Drumheller Galt

* See last paragraph of the Explanatory Note at the end of this article.

CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

DECEMBER 1, 1952



CODE	RATIO OF AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT TO TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			
	METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET	MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS	MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS	MINOR AREAS
1	8% AND OVER	10% AND OVER	12% AND OVER	12% AND OVER
2	5 - 7.9%	5 - 9.9%	6 - 11.9%	8 - 11.9%
3	3 - 4.9%	3 - 4.9%	2 - 5.9%	2 - 5.9%
4	0 - 2.9%	0 - 2.9%	0 - 1.9%	0 - 1.9%

EXCLUDES PERSONS WITHOUT JOBS AND SECOND HOME

National Employment Service offices increased by 7,000 to 25,800 during the month amounting to 6 per cent of all paid workers in the region.

Metropolitan Areas. Job applications registered with the National Employment Service Office in St. John's, Newfoundland, increased by more than 50 per cent during the month of November, bringing the area into the moderate surplus category. The loss of employment resulted mainly from reduced construction activity and seasonal slackening in fish canneries.

Major Industrial Areas. The high level of activity in Corner Brook during October showed little change during November and the area continued in the shortage group. Pulp cutting exerted the strongest demand for labour but construction also remained active. The shortage of pulp cutters in Corner Brook was in contrast to other logging areas in the region where surpluses were prevalent. In Sydney, fire in one of the mines and lay-offs at the steel plant increased the number of N.E.S. job registrations sufficiently for the area to be classified in the moderate surplus group. Halifax also became a moderate surplus area, and it was reported that waterfront activity was at the lowest level in a number of years. However, activity in the Halifax shipyards strengthened, and exerted a very strong demand for such skills as machinists, fitters, lathe hands, platers, sheet metal workers and marine electricians.

The employment situation in Moncton, New Glasgow, and Saint John remained at the October levels, with moderate labour surpluses continuing. The most pronounced labour surpluses were among unskilled occupations. Lumbering activities showed a slight improvement, but there was a reduction in construction work, especially in outlying areas.

Major Agricultural Areas. A balanced situation was maintained in Kentville but labour surpluses accumulated in Charlottetown, as ship repair and aeroplane work became less active. Further lay-offs were expected at the aircraft plant during the next two months.

Minor Areas. Labour demand and supply were in approximate balance in six of the 11 local areas but labour surpluses occurred in Bathurst, Campbellton, Newcastle, Summerside and Yarmouth. In the five surplus areas woodworkers were in fairly widespread supply. Unemployment in this industry is expected to become even more pronounced at the beginning of 1953, as the cut planned by many operators is not expected to extend beyond the end of this year. Pit prop contracts have also been lower than last year. In Bathurst, contracts are only about 25% of what they were last year and prices are \$6.00 a cord less.

QUEBEC

Quebec entered the winter season with a number of diverse economic developments affecting the employment scene, although in total, labour demand was about the same as last year. From the employment standpoint the most significant single change was the lower cut in logging, with indications that the employment peak was passed at a point 10,000 lower than in 1951-52 and at a time several months in advance of last year.

At the same time, the increase in consumer spending in the past half year stimulated the slackened consumer industries in the region -- clothing, boot and shoe, electrical apparatus -- and their primary supplying industries, textiles and leather. Distributive and service industries similarly benefited. The aircraft and shipbuilding industries continued to expand employment.

In the industries affected by seasonal influences, employment declines in recent weeks were only moderate because of exceptionally fine weather. Road, residential and industrial construction were very active for the season because of the open fall and sawmills and road transport were extending their activities later into the season than usual. Farm work, however, was largely completed and fuel cutting was the major agricultural activity.

Applications for work on file at National Employment Service offices rose by about 15,000 during the month to total 60,200 at November 27. Registrations from men were about 8,500 higher than last year while in the case of women they were about 4,800 lower.

Metropolitan Areas. The labour market situation in Montreal was in balance at the end of November whereas labour shortages had existed at the beginning of the month. Increased registrations during November resulted mainly from declines in construction and other seasonal activities. Some clothing workers were laid off for a short time following a very active fall season. On the other hand, hiring in defence industries continued.

Quebec City is much more dependent on seasonal activities and logging for its employment than Montreal and a fairly large labour surplus was reported at the end of November. The reduced logging cut was making a noticeable impact on the area; employment in the major pulpwood camps remained fairly steady at around 16,000 during November as compared with a rising trend and total employment of 19,000 at the end of November 1951. Construction was also slow this year and there is likely to be a reduction in inside building in the winter. However, employment in manufacturing remained higher than last year. Shipbuilding, textiles, boot and shoe industries were employing more help than last year, and the outlook appeared to be favourable in these industries.

Major Industrial Areas. All five areas classified in the major industrial group showed a labour surplus at the end of November following a movement of three of the areas from balanced to surplus conditions during the month. The surplus was of fairly large proportions in Shawinigan Falls at the end of the month. Completion of construction projects appears to have played an important part which has not been offset by very much hiring in logging. Some lay-offs occurred in the chemical and aluminium plants, and paper mills in the area were working short-time.

Major Agricultural Areas. The three major agricultural areas shifted from the balanced category to that of slight labour surplus during the month as work on farms drew to a close. Fishing was also virtually completed for the reason. Logging is now the only major activity in these areas.

Minor Areas. Many of the labour market areas in the Eastern Townships maintained their previous month's standing in the balanced or slight labour surplus categories. Improvement in textiles and knitting mills tended to offset seasonal influences. In addition, construction was sustained in some of these areas.

Northern and outlying areas, however, were showing the effects of the oncoming winter season. The Lac St. Jean area was reporting heavier registrations of workers at employment offices as work on two of the hydro-electric projects was completed and workers thus released had not found employment elsewhere. Exploration and development work was being sharply reduced. A similar situation existed in the Gaspé Peninsula where there were sizable labour surpluses. The drop in logging employment in this area was greater than in other parts of the province.

ONTARIO

During November the higher year-to-year employment level that was evident during the late summer and early fall continued. However, seasonal shifts from agriculture, canning and preserving, agricultural implement and vehicle manufacturing, and construction eased the labour shortage in some areas and resulted in some soft spots in the labour market. Of the 12 areas in which there were some shortages of labour at the beginning of November six had moved into the approximately balanced category by the end of month and while there were 25 areas in the balanced category, the number of areas with a surplus of labour had grown to 10.

The construction industry sustained higher levels of employment this fall than it did last year because of the large number of late starts in residential construction, the favourable weather, and the comparatively higher volume of business construction undertaken in

in Ontario this year. However, as various projects were completed the volume of construction employment started to contract substantially during the latter part of November and this trend will continue as the weather becomes colder. Moreover, by the middle of November hiring for the pulpwood industry was virtually complete except for replacements and many of the small areas in the northern part of the province developed surpluses of both logging and construction workers.

Despite the reductions in employment in these seasonal industries the strong consumer demand in the furniture, textiles, clothing, radio and T.V., electrical apparatus and leather and rubber goods industries kept the labour force in most areas of Ontario fully occupied this fall. Hiring of extra service workers for the Christmas trade was heavy at the end of November and many students were obtaining part time work in stores and at the post office during the Christmas rush period.

Registrations for employment at the National Employment Service offices increased by about 8,900 during the month of November to reach a total of 53,400 on November 27, about 3.4 per cent of total paid workers as compared with 2.9 per cent the previous month. Thus registrations were about 19,500 below those at the end of November last year when about 4.9 per cent of all paid workers in Ontario were registered at the National Employment Service offices but about the same as in 1950 when 3.3 per cent were registered.

Metropolitan Areas. There was little change in the labour markets of the three metropolitan areas of Hamilton, Toronto and Ottawa-Hull. Labour continued in tight supply in Toronto and Ottawa-Hull with shortages of domestic workers, junior typists and clerical workers continuing in both areas and the shortage of machinists, tool makers, and die setters still unfilled in Ottawa. Construction was still active in Hamilton but a number of major construction projects in Toronto were completed and building in Ottawa was slowing down. This resulted in some surplus of carpenters, painters, bricklayers, and plasterers in the latter area.

Major Industrial Areas. The gradual contraction of outdoor construction activities along with completion of canning and preserving caused some deterioration in the labour markets of most of the major industrial areas in Ontario but the steady production in the consumer goods industries plus the increasing demand for extra staff to take care of the Christmas trade maintained employment at levels higher than at the corresponding time last year. In Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo, where the manufacturing industries were working at capacity and construction was still very active, labour was still in short supply. The rubber footwear plants in Kitchener planned to cut back production schedules in December. Some labour surplus developed in Brantford,

Cornwall, Niagara Falls, Oshawa, Peterborough, St. Catharines, and Windsor as the agricultural implement, vehicle, fruit processing and construction industries contracted. The paper mills in Cornwall were still operating at reduced levels. Of the fourteen major industrial areas in Ontario only Kingston, London, Sudbury, Timmins and Welland had approximately balanced labour markets at the end of November.

Major Agricultural Areas. Although both Barrie and Chatham had approximately balanced labour markets, there was still a shortage of qualified typists, stenographers and female clerical workers in Barrie. The sugar refinery in Chatham was employing a substantial number of female workers who will be laid off about the middle of December.

Minor Areas. Labour was still in tight supply in Brampton and Galt because of the continuing high levels of employment in the quarries and construction in Brampton and in manufacturing and construction in Galt. The labour surplus in Leamington, which resulted from the closure of the tobacco factory and the reduction in food processing, continued during November and the early part of December and as increasing numbers of agricultural and construction workers registered for employment in Trenton and Pembroke these two areas developed a surplus of workers. At the end of November there were still balanced labour markets in 16 of the 21 minor areas under review.

PRAIRIE

Defence construction, development of oil and base metal resources, industrialization and prosperity in the farming areas have provided strong support for labour demand this fall, and increases in employment appear to have exceeded the growth in the labour force. An almost five per cent rise in non-agricultural employment over the year, coupled with heavy farming requirements, exerted considerable pressure on all sources of labour supply and created labour shortages in most areas. Much of this additional employment is the direct result of airfield extensions and industrial construction, particularly in the Edmonton area. Substantial increases also occurred in transportation, meat packing and trade. A more recent development was the increasing demand for women workers in textile, clerical and service occupations.

During November, the limiting influence of weather, which affects the employment of about 60 per cent of the labour force in this region, became more apparent and was somewhat accentuated by the low level of logging operations. Although temperatures were higher, and the snowfall less than usual, agriculture and such work as the construction and maintenance of highways and railways diminished or ceased altogether, and resulted in lay-offs in these and in associated industries. While many of the workers in these occupations undoubtedly withdrew from the labour force for the winter months, others looked for alternative employment.

Job applications registered with the National Employment Service rose to 25,600 at November 27, an increase of 47 per cent from the beginning of the month. This total, however, was still lower, by 1,500 than it was a year earlier.

The diminishing demand for labour resulted in a reclassification of six local areas from the labour shortage group to that of approximate balance between labour supply and demand. In two areas the approximate balance at the beginning of November changed to a condition of labour surplus. Even with these changes, however, 19 of the 21 areas in the survey remained in the shortage and balanced classifications.

Metropolitan and Major Industrial Areas: Conditions in the three metropolitan areas were generally stable during the month. A slight surplus of labour began to accumulate in Winnipeg as a result of the normal slowdown in construction and the lack of pulp cutting jobs at the Lakehead. However, labour demand was strong for this time of year. The number of hirings was increasing in retail trade, textiles and meat packing, and prospects were for higher construction employment during this winter than last. The shortage of labour eased in Edmonton, partly because of a strike of plumbers and steamfitters, but manpower requirements for the construction of the Cold Lake airfield and for numerous industrial projects in the area were still substantial. There was no marked change in conditions in Calgary.

Unusually large log inventories and diminished demand for pulp continued to reduce pulpwood production in Fort William-Port Arthur, and surplus labour accumulated rapidly. Woods employment in the area during November was about 40 per cent lower than it was a year earlier, and further reductions were in prospect. Activity in grain loading, in construction, and in aircraft manufacturing continued strong, and apart from seasonal lay-offs, employment in pulp and paper mills remained static. A lay-off of 110 workers from the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company contributed to the rise in N.E.S. job applications, which, at the end of November, were over twice as high as they were a year earlier.

Major Agricultural and Minor Areas: Generally buoyant conditions continued in most areas in this group. By the end of November, labour surpluses had not yet developed in any area, although slackening farm operations eased the shortages that existed in Dawson Creek, North Battleford, Regina, Yorkton and Weyburn. Job applications in almost all N.E.S. offices were fewer than they were a year earlier; the important exceptions being areas such as Kenora, Fort Frances, Dauphin and The Pas, which normally supply workers for logging operations.

PACIFIC

The lack of snow during November permitted many outdoor activities to continue and delayed some of the usual seasonal reductions in employment. There was, however, a notable increase in non-seasonal employment declines, due to a combination of market conditions, industrial disputes and power shortages. The net result was that although current unemployment in the region as a whole was slightly lower in November than it was a year earlier, employment prospects for the winter months were somewhat less favourable. If the amount of snowfall approaches the average of recent years and there is either no change or an increase in non-seasonal unemployment, it is reasonable to expect that the number of idle workers will be higher than it was last year.

The depressing effect on base metal production of falling lead and zinc prices was aggravated by an unusually low level of water in Kootenay Lake, the main source of power for the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Corporation. Since the resulting power shortage is expected to continue until spring, the company reduced its smelting operations by cutting down its acceptance of ore and concentrates from independent producers by 25 per cent. A partial list of the producers forced to close down indicates that a total of 500 men will be laid off. Workers in two of the larger firms still operating voted to reduce the work week in order to keep as many men as possible on the job.

Logging operations at upper altitudes continued later than usual, particularly on Vancouver Island, but total employment in the forest industries was still below existing capacity. A number of small sawmilling operators closed down following the completion of United Kingdom contracts, but among the larger producers the loss of this market was partly offset by greater exports to other European countries and to South America. Closing of several camps in the interior early in December following the deadlock between unions and management on the issue of wages also reduced activity.

Job applications registered with the National Employment Service rose by 6,600 during the month, reaching a total of 29,800, representing 7.9 per cent of the estimated number of paid workers in the region. As a result, two-thirds of the individual labour market areas of the region were in the labour surplus classification at the end of the month.

Metropolitan and Major Industrial Areas. The usual movement of workers from distant mining and construction projects into Vancouver-New Westminster, together with seasonal lay-offs in construction, food processing, clothing and machine shops contributed to an increasing labour surplus in this metropolitan area. In spite of this, the number of applications registered with the N.E.S. offices was 12 per cent lower than it was at the comparable date in 1951. Because of the mild weather, construction activity was greater than usual, and hiring in shipyards increased following the signing of a new union contract. The fishing

industry was practically at a standstill, partly due to the continued dispute over the price of herring for the 1952-1953 season.

A slight labour surplus developed in Victoria during the month, but because lumbering and construction in the area were fully active the employment level was higher than it was a year earlier. Machine shops and sheet metal plants were increasing employment because of a greater amount of export and defence work. Work on new ship-building contracts began, but employment increases in the yards were limited in part, by lack of agreement on wages.

Minor Areas. Reductions in employment were sufficiently marked in this group of areas to warrant the reclassification of four of the seven areas covered, into the categories of greater labour supply. At Prince George, surplus labour increased because of an influx of workers from the prairies and a sharp drop in demand for loggers. No complete shut down of logging camps took place, however, and no large construction projects had yet been tied up by the weather. The Kenney Dam was almost completed, but most of the workers released were transferred to other company projects. In Chilliwack, the main factors contributing to an increasing labour surplus were the normal decline in farming and in fruit and vegetable processing plants; the early closing of lumber camps; and the completion of two hydro-electric power projects. A slight surplus of labour in Penticton was chiefly the result of the closing of fruit-packing houses.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The labour market areas have been divided into four broad groups of areas on the basis of the size of the labour force and the proportion of the labour force that is engaged in agriculture. The key to the area classification is shown on page 18.

In determining the definition of higher and lower degrees of labour surplus, approximate balance between labour supply and demand, and labour shortage, a number of significant factors were taken into account. For example, a high ratio of N.E.S. job applications to all paid workers (including persons without jobs and seeking work), is more significant in a metropolitan area where employment is normally more stable than it is in an area in which seasonal industries predominate. Furthermore, this ratio normally fluctuates over a greater range during the year in "major agricultural" and "minor" areas than it does in "metropolitan" areas. Similarly, a condition of labour shortage becomes apparent when the ratio is somewhat higher in larger areas than in smaller areas, because the "hard core" of unemployed generally forms a greater proportion of the labour force in a large area than it does in a small one. These factors are reflected in the labour rating in the key to the area classification.

Labour conditions in the various areas, which give a representative coverage of about 95 per cent of the country's labour force, are shown in the summary table (page 6), the detailed table (page 8) and the map (page 9).

Some National Employment Service office areas which are sufficiently close together and which have similar economic patterns are combined into one labour market area. Most of these combined areas are clearly indicated, but some are listed under the name of the major N.E.S. office and are marked with an asterisk. Areas so marked are:

Chandler, including Gaspé and New Richmond
Ottawa-Hull, including Maniwaki
Matane, including Sept Isles.

Key to Area Classification

		RATIO OF APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT ON FILE WITH NES TO PAID WORKERS *			
CODE No.	DEFINITION	METROPOLITAN LABOUR MARKET AREA	MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREA	MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREA	MINOR AREA
1	Labour Surplus	8% and over	10% and over	12% and over	12% and over
2	Labour Surplus	5 - 7.9%	5 - 9.9%	6 - 11.9%	6 - 11.9%
3	Approximate Balance	3 - 4.9%	4 - 4.9%	2 - 5.9%	2 - 5.9%
4	Labour Shortage	0 - 2.9%	0 - 2.9%	0 - 1.9%	0 - 1.9%

* Includes persons without jobs and seeking work

PLANT EXPANSION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, 1952

About 2,000 permanent new jobs have been created in the petroleum products industry in Canada since 1948 through the construction or expansion of about 25 oil refineries. This growth, following on the discovery of the Leduc oil fields in 1947, is reflected in an increase in the employment index for the petroleum products industry which rose from 149.3 in 1949, (1939=100) to 172.5 in 1951. ^{*} An even sharper increase in employment took place in the production of crude oil and natural gas during the same period, and the employment index rose from 183.7 in 1948 to 359.9 in 1951.

In the past five years, there has been a regional shift in the location of refinery expansion, due to the increasing availability of Canadian crude oil. The earlier expansion which took place in the Quebec region was based on imported oil, while the later expansion occurred in the Prairie provinces and was based on Canadian oil. Since Albertan crude oil is now available in Ontario, and will reach British Columbia in 1953, refinery expansion is at present developing in these two Provinces.

The drive towards making the Canadian economy self sufficient is shown by the increasing proportion of domestic crude oil used by refineries. In 1946, before the discovery of the Leduc oil fields, only 9 per cent of the oil used by Canadian refineries was Canadian crude oil. In 1952, with greatly expanded refinery capacity it is estimated that 37 per cent of the crude oil processed is Canadian. Actual production of crude oil in Canada increased from 12,400,000 barrels in 1948 to 48,125,000 barrels in 1951, and 37,700,000 barrels in the first eight months of 1952. Alberta produced 96 per cent of all Canadian crude oil in 1951.

New refineries completed in 1952 include the Canadian Oil Companies Ltd. large modern refinery at Froomfield, Ontario. This refinery, however, required few new workers since it was a replacement project. At Clarkson, Ontario, the British American Oil Company Limited completed work on the installation of new equipment and the modification of existing facilities to increase the capacity of the plant from 12,700 to 17,000 barrels per day. In addition a new grease plant is under construction. This company also completed a new cumene plant at Montreal, which employs 6-8 workers. A new company, Riverlake Oils Limited is completing a new refinery with a planned capacity of 3,000 barrels per day at Fort William, Ontario, which will employ 40 workers.

* The employment data upon which this index is based include a small number of workers engaged in the manufacture of coal products.

In the Prairie region, Anglo-Canadian Oils Limited expanded their plant at Brandon, Manitoba, early in 1952 to increase topping and cracking facilities. This required about 10 new workers. The Imperial Oil Company Limited at Edmonton, Alberta, completed the installation of vacuum distillation and fluid catalytic cracking units, but few additional workers were required.

The value of investment in the petroleum industry has quadrupled from \$296 million in 1945 to \$1,225 million in 1951. It is apparent from the foregoing paragraphs that employment has not increased in proportion. Labour costs in the refining sector of the industry were low, averaging 6 per cent of the gross value of production in the period from 1946 to 1950. Labour costs are low in both the primary and secondary sectors of the petroleum industry, for in spite of the high level of capital investment, employment in the industry as a whole totals only about 25,000 workers. A large volume of investment is expected again in 1953 and a number of important projects are already underway or at the planning stage. In the labour market, the immediate effect of this expansion will be translated into increased employment on construction sites rather than permanent jobs in the petroleum products industry.

LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL SHORTAGES AND SURPLUSES

The usual downturn in seasonal activities in the fall reduced the demand for workers in many occupations during November to a point lower than that reached for several months. The number of areas reporting surpluses of selected occupations at the end of the month exceeded those reporting shortages by 73 to 21. The comparable figures at the beginning of the month were 38 and 29. It is notable, however, that among highly skilled metalworking occupations the excess of job vacancies over the available supply either remained unchanged or increased in many of the areas in which defence industries are located.

Metropolitan Areas. Occupational surpluses were apparent in all metropolitan labour market areas by the end of November. The number of occupations for which the supply exceeded the demand was largest in Vancouver-New Westminster and Montreal, followed by Quebec-Levis, where there were surpluses of seamen, sales personnel, painters and carpenters. Occupational shortages, on the other hand, appeared in only five areas. With the exception of domestic service workers and some metalworking skills, there was no widespread demand which could not be met for any one specific type of labour.

Major Industrial Areas. Surpluses of one or more occupations appeared in 17 of the 28 major industrial areas during November. None of these areas, however, showed an excessive supply of manpower in more than three occupations, the most pronounced surplus being of carpenters. Occupational shortages occurred in only four areas. In contrast to one month ago when the list of shortage occupations in Halifax became extensive, tool makers and die setters were currently the only occupations in short supply in that area.

Major Agricultural Areas. As might be expected at the beginning of winter, there was an adequate supply of farm hands in almost all areas.

Minor Areas. Only 5 of the minor areas had occupational shortages of male workers at the end of November; these were of engineers, machinists, tool makers and die setters in Sorel, loggers in Rimouski and St. Georges Est, sales personnel in Granby, and unskilled transportation workers in Owen Sound. In the case of women, there was an intensified demand for domestic service workers in Chicoutimi, office clerks in Galt, and food and tobacco workers in Ingersoll.

The supply of specific types of labour exceeded the demand in almost all minor areas. Surpluses of carpenters and loggers were particularly pronounced in these areas, appearing in 31 and 10 localities, respectively.

Local Occupational Shortages - Male
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Montreal	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	136	88
"	Routemen	141	61
Ottawa-Hull	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	113	5
Toronto	Engineers	121	36
"	Transportation equipment Workers	53	1
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Corner Brook	Loggers & Bushmen	736	96
Halifax	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	72	12
London	Sales Personnel	78	32
Saint John	Unskilled Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities Workers	50	10
<u>Major Agricultural Areas</u>			
Brandon	Farm Workers	39	13
<u>Minor Areas</u>			
Granby	Sales Personnel	46	13
Owen Sound	Unskilled Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities Workers	35	1
Rimouski	Loggers & Bushmen	96	7
St. Georges Est	Loggers & Bushmen	301	5
Sorel	Engineers	50	0
"	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	58	7

Local Occupational Shortages - Female
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Domestic Service Workers	159	104
Montreal	Domestic Service Workers	359	186

Local Occupational Shortages - Female
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Vacancies Listed	Applications Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Montreal	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	252	186
Ottawa-Hull	Domestic Service Workers	200	106
Toronto	Domestic Service Workers	453	178
"	General Office Clerks	285	232
"	Sales Personnel	917	194
"	Secretaries, Stenographers & Typists	527	163
"	Waiters	235	89
Winnipeg	Domestic Service Workers	257	3

Major Industrial Areas

Halifax	Domestic Service Workers	116	30
"	Food & Tobacco Workers	71	4
"	Sales Personnel	226	72
"	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	103	3
London	Domestic Service Workers	146	90
Sherbrooke	Sales Personnel	70	41

Major Agricultural Areas

Brandon	Domestic Service Workers	59	14
Regina	Domestic Service Workers	89	12
"	Waiters	45	2
Saskatoon	Domestic Service Workers	74	17

Minor Areas

Chicoutimi	Domestic Service Workers	59	15
Galt	General Office Clerks	60	14
Ingersoll	Unskilled Food & Tobacco Workers	65	2

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Applications Listed	Vacancies Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Calgary	Carpenters	96	0
Edmonton	Carpenters	94	0

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Hamilton	Carpenters	161	0
Montreal	Boot & Shoe Workers	122	39
"	Carpenters	671	80
"	Draughtsmen	109	27
"	Engineers	142	62
"	Foundry Workers	94	1
"	Painters	823	2
"	Sales Personnel	233	121
"	Seamen	133	0
"	Stationary Engineers & Firemen	112	20
"	Secondary Textile Workers	495	24
"	Welders & Flame Cutters	177	24
Ottawa-Hull	Carpenters	212	4
"	Painters	125	0
Quebec-Levis	Boot & Shoe Workers	82	2
" "	Carpenters	418	11
" "	Painters	165	4
" "	Sales Personnel	175	85
" "	Seamen	86	3
St. John's	Carpenters	195	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	155	0
Toronto	Carpenters	397	6
"	Painters	286	0
"	Sales Personnel	152	60
"	Secondary Textile Workers	342	6
Vancouver -			
New Westminster	Accountants	129	10
" "	Automobile Mechanics & Repairmen	148	7
" "	Blasters, Powdermen & Drillers	153	0
" "	Carpenters	884	1
" "	Cranemen & Shovelmen	121	3
" "	Engineers	121	30
" "	Farm Workers	217	1
" "	Loggers & Bushmen	417	1
" "	Machinists, Toolmakers & Die Setters	212	1
" "	Painters	368	1
" "	Sales Personnel	258	56
" "	Sawmills & Planing Mill Workers	166	91
" "	Seamen	366	2
" "	Stationary Engineers & Firemen	264	0

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Metropolitan Areas</u>			
Vancouver -			
New Westminster	Welders & Flame Cutters	221	2
Winnipeg	Carpenters	360	3
"	Loggers & Bushmen	73	14
"	Painters	123	0
"	Secondary Textile Workers	146	31
<u>Major Industrial Areas</u>			
Fort William			
Port Arthur	Carpenters	144	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	595	0
Halifax	Carpenters	77	21
Kingston	Carpenters	57	2
London	Carpenters	64	1
Moncton	Carpenters	231	4
"	Loggers & Bushmen	90	5
Oshawa	Automobile Workers	62	0
Peterborough	Primary Textile Workers	56	0
Rouyn-Val d'Or	Carpenters	177	4
"	Loggers & Bushmen	79	2
"	Miners	91	8
St. Hyacinthe	Carpenters	54	1
Saint John	Carpenters	136	0
Shawinigan Falls	Carpenters	136	0
"	Boot & Shoe Workers	53	0
"	Painters	55	0
Sherbrooke	Secondary Textile Workers	65	0
Sudbury	Carpenters	61	0
Sydney	Carpenters	67	0
"	Miners	104	1
Throis Rivières	Carpenters	208	4
"	Foundry Workers	73	0
"	Painters	78	2
Victoria	Carpenters	126	9
Windsor	Automobile Workers	52	0
"	Carpenters	133	2

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male
November 27, 1952

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Major Agricultural Areas</u>			
Barrie	Carpenters	53	0
Joliette	Carpenters	95	0
Kentville	Carpenters	52	2
Lethbridge	Farm Workers	106	41
<u>Minor Areas</u>			
Bathurst	Carpenters	123	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	122	11
Belleville	Carpenters	25	0
Bridgewater	Carpenters	31	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	39	0
Buckingham	Carpenters	28	0
Campbellton	Carpenters	26	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	50	0
Causapscal	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	28	2
Chandler	Farm Workers	64	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	44	0
Chicoutimi	Carpenters	49	4
Chilliwack	Carpenters	83	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	57	0
Drummondville	Primary Textile Workers	64	0
Edmunston	Loggers & Bushmen	56	0
Fredericton	Carpenters	33	2
Grand Falls	Carpenters	37	11
"	Loggers & Bushmen	35	0
Jonquiere	Carpenters	58	0
Kirkland Lake	Carpenters	27	0
La Malbaie	Carpenters	33	0
"	Seamen	83	0
Leamington	Carpenters	28	0
Lindsay	Automobile Workers	76	0
Matane	Carpenters	26	0
"	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	25	0
Montmagny	Carpenters	44	0
Newcastle	Carpenters	63	0
North Bay	Carpenters	43	0
"	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	51	0
Owen Sound	Seamen	40	0

Local Occupational Surpluses - Male (Concl'd)

Area	Occupation	Appli- cations Listed	Vacan- cies Listed
<u>Minor Areas (Concl'd)</u>			
Pembroke	Carpenters	53	6
Portage La Prairie	Carpenters	26	1
Prince George	Loggers & Bushmen	135	1
"	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	65	2
Prince Rupert	Carpenters	50	0
"	Farm Workers	70	0
"	Loggers & Bushmen	28	2
Rimouski	Carpenters	66	0
St. Anne			
de Bellevue	Carpenters	30	0
St. Georges Est	Boot and Shoe Workers	34	8
"	Carpenters	60	0
"	Primary Textile Workers	82	0
St. Jerome	Carpenters	50	0
St. Joseph d'Alma	Carpenters	178	0
Sorel	Carpenters	62	0
"	Seamen	55	0
Summerside	Carpenters	49	0
Trail	Carpenters	37	0
Trenton	Carpenters	27	0
Truro	Loggers & Bushmen	51	0
"	Sawmill & Planing Mill Workers	41	0
Valleyfield	Carpenters	98	0
"	Painters	26	0
"	Primary Textile Workers	65	5
Vernon	Carpenters	26	0
Yarmouth	Carpenters	138	0
"	Farm Workers	115	0

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The preceding tables are based primarily on National Employment Service data on job vacancies notified by employers and applications filed by job seekers.

The table on local occupational shortages shows the occupations in each area where the vacancies exceeded the applications by twenty-five or more. Male and female workers in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled occupations are dealt with separately.

The table on local occupational surpluses covers male workers only and is compiled on the following basis:

Labour force in the area:	Areas Listed if excess of applications over vacancies is:
75,000 and over	75 or more
25,000 to 75,000	50 or more
10,000 to 25,000	25 or more

In this table, unskilled workers are not listed and some service occupations as well as certain other occupational groups (e.g. foremen, apprentices, etc.) are excluded.

Both tables are adjusted in the light of qualitative information on employment in Canada during the period covered. This includes reports of interviews with industrial executives by Department of Labour representatives and statements submitted regularly by local employment office managers. As a result of the examination of these data some occupations and areas may be deleted from the preliminary tables and others, for which the statistical evidence is less conclusive may be added.

CURRENT LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS - PRELIMINARY DATA

Items	1952		Percentage Change	
	Date	Amount	From Previous Month	From Same Month Last Year
<u>Manpower</u>				
Live Applications for jobs at N.E.S.....	Nov. 27	194,514	+30.9	- 6.5
Per cent of labour force.....	Nov. 27	3.6	2.7 ★	4.0 ★
Per cent of paid workers (1).....	Nov. 27	4.8	3.7 ★	5.3 ★
Ordinary claims for benefit, U.I.C.....	Nov. 1	111,539(2)	+20.4	(3)
Per cent of insured population.....	Nov. 1	3.5	2.9 ★	(3)
Per cent of live applications for employment.....	Nov. 1	75.0	64.8 ★	(3)
Amount of benefit payments (\$000).....	October	5,711	0.0	+46.4
Index of employment (1939 = 100).....	Oct. 1	192.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.9
Immigration.....	October	10,940	+18.1	-51.6
<u>Earnings and Income</u>				
Total labour income (\$000,000).....	September	932	+ 1.1	+ 9.9
Average weekly salaries & wages.....	Oct. 1	\$55.03	+ 0.9	+ 6.7
Average hourly earnings (mfg.).....	Oct. 1	\$ 1.30	+ 0.3	+ 6.6
Average hours worked per week (mfg.).....	Oct. 1	42.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.5
Average weekly earnings (mfg.).....	Oct. 1	\$54.69	+ 1.5	+ 7.1
Cost-of-living index (Av. 1935-39 = 100)	Nov. 1	184.8	- 0.1	- 3.4
Consumer price Index (Av. 1949=100).....	Nov. 1	116.1	+ 0.1	- 1.5
Real weekly earnings (mfg.av. 1949=100).....	Oct. 1	113.0	+ 1.5	+ 8.0
<u>Industrial Production</u>				
Total (Average 1935-39 = 100).....	September	218.8	+ 4.9	+ 5.1
Manufacturing.....	September	223.0	+ 5.6	+ 4.2
Durables.....	September	267.0	+ 7.9	+ 4.5
Non-durables.....	September	197.3	+ 3.9	+ 4.0
<u>Industrial Relations</u>				
Strikes and lockouts - days lost.....	November	44,176	-73.2	+13.8

★ These figures are the respective percentages for the previous month and for the same month last year.

- (1) Includes persons without jobs and seeking work.
- (2) Not including claimants on temporary mass lay-offs.
- (3) Not comparable with last year's total.

